PAIN MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

- Types of Pain
  - Nociceptive
    - Somatic
    - Visceral
  - Neuropathic
- Assess pain using age and ability appropriate tools
  - FLACC
  - Pain Scale – faces or numbers
- Consider starting with around the clock acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Non-pharmacologic interventions can also be helpful
- Around the clock medication with intermittent prn orders available is preferable to only prn (=patient not receiving) to help reduce acute pain
- Use caution with combination products (i.e. Vicodin) as increasing dose may be associated with hepatotoxic levels of acetaminophen
- If pain persists, add opiates
  - i.e. Morphine 0.05 mg/kg IV q4 with 0.025 mg/kg q2 prn
  - Use caution in prescribing codeine
  - Monitor effectiveness and side effects
  - Switch opiate if poor side effects or titrate up dose if only minimally effective
  - Use bowel regimen when patient is on opiates

REFERENCES