

## **Don't continue stress ulcer prophylaxis medications for ICU patients if the patient is no longer at high risk for GI bleeding complications**

According to published guidelines, medications for stress ulcer prophylaxis are not recommended to be continued in ICU patients if the GI bleeding risk factors are no longer in place. Histamine-2 receptor antagonists (H2RAs) and proton-pump inhibitors (PPIs), commonly used as prophylaxis for stress ulcers, are associated with adverse drug events increased medication costs, and commonly increase the susceptibility to community-acquired pneumonia, nosocomial pneumonia and clostridium difficile infection. Adherence to therapeutic guidelines will aid health care providers in reducing treatment of patients without clinically important risk factors for gastrointestinal bleeding. Recommend health care providers to scrutinizing the need for stress ulcer prophylaxis once a patient has left the ICU setting.

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Don't Prescribe Medications for Stress Ulcer Prophylaxis to Medical Inpatients Unless at High Risk for Gastrointestinal Complications. <https://www.aafp.org/pubs/afp/collections/choosing-wisely/22.html>. Accessed 7 June 2022.