

APPENDIX 1

Standardised anaesthesia protocol for SUBLIME trial participants

Pre-op:

No specific premedication

Peri-op:

Paracetamol 1g IV

Ondansetron 4mg IV

Dexamethasone 3.3mg (+/- 0.1mg)* IV unless clinically contraindicated

Intubation and ventilation at anaesthetist's discretion - with muscle relaxant of anaesthetist's choice

Sevoflurane in air: depth of anaesthesia at anaesthetist's discretion

Fentanyl: 3-6 mcg/kg IV during surgery

Fluids: at anaesthetist's discretion

All other non-opiate and non-anti-emetic drugs: at anaesthetist's discretion

Post-op:

IV rescue morphine in recovery unit, 2mg increments

IV morphine PCA, 1mg bolus, 5 minute lockout

Paracetamol 1g 6-hourly orally

Ibuprofen 400mg 8-hourly orally unless contraindicated

PRN: ondansetron 4mg (IV) 8-hrly and cyclizine 50mg (IV) 8-hrly

**Dexamethasone concentration differs between manufacturers and is typically available as 8mg dexamethasone in 2mls (4mg/ml dexamethasone) or as dexamethasone phosphate 4mg/ml (equivalent to 3.3mg/ml dexamethasone). Either preparation is acceptable i.e. 1ml of 4mg/ml dexamethasone phosphate (3.3mg dexamethasone) or 0.8ml of 4mg/ml dexamethasone (3.2mg dexamethasone).*