Management of Alcohol Withdrawal Syndrome

Dependent drinking on screening - HIGH RISK

Exceptional patient group with co-morbidity?
- Patients with evidence of liver disease: especially jaundice, encephalopathy
- Patients with other co-morbidity (ie COPD, pneumonia, cerebrovascular disease, reduced GCS, elderly >70, head injury; pregnancy)

YES

NO

Dependent drinking on screening - HIGH RISK

Any 2 of the following:
- Presents with or has had previous withdrawal seizures or severely agitated withdrawal
- High screening score (FAST >12)
- High initial symptom score (GMAWS >4)

YES

Fixed dose treatment
PLUS
Symptom triggered treatment
(GMAWS)

NO

Symptom triggered treatment
(GMAWS)