Formulary Post-Operative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV) Guidance

**Risk Score:**
- Female Gender
- Non-Smoker
- Post-Operative Opioids
- Previous history of PONV or Motion Sickness

**Baseline risk can also be reduced by:**
- Adequate IV Hydration
- Maintaining Normal BP
- Adequate Oxygenation
- Low Opioid Technique
- Effective Pain Management
- LA/Regional Technique
- TIVA
- Avoiding N₂O

**PROPHYLAXIS**

- Low Risk (0-1)
  - ONDANSETRON 4mg IV
- Moderate Risk (2)
  - ONDANSETRON 4mg IV and DEXAMETHASONE 4mg IV
- High Risk (3)
  - Consider adding DROPERIDOL 1mg IV.

**TREATMENT**

- If PONV score 2 or 3, give a combination of two anti-emetics simultaneously:
  - Ondansetron 4mg IV (up to QDS)
  - (if at least four hours following the prophylactic dose)
  - Droperidol 0.625mg IV (up to TDS)
  - *Note that this may have been used for prophylaxis*

- Treatment Failure:
  - Exclude medical causes of PONV
  - Consider Dexamethasone IV* (every 24 hours)
  - Cyclizine 50mg IV can be considered in recovery given the proximity to surgery
  - Contact the Acute Pain Team or the on-call Anaesthetist

*Note that this may have been used for prophylaxis