

How to Enter a PACU PowerPlan in Cerner PowerChart

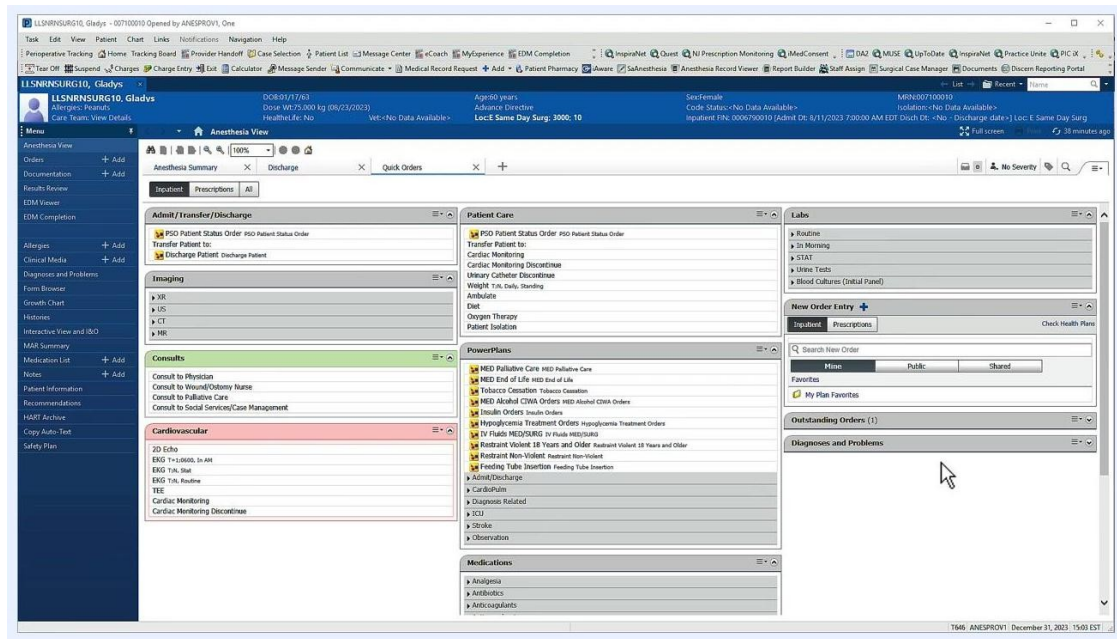
This guide walks you through how to enter a PACU PowerPlan in Cerner PowerChart, from locating the orders screen to signing finalized orders. You'll learn how to search for the PACU PowerPlan, select and modify orders within it, avoid duplicate orders, and submit your orders for signature.

Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure you have access to the Orders screen in PowerChart with the patient's chart open. You should be able to view the patient's name, allergies, date of birth, and weight at the top of the screen, along with the left navigation menu containing modules such as Anesthesia View, Orders, Allergies, and Clinical Media.

Step 1: Review the orders screen layout

The main Orders screen displays orders grouped into folders and subfolders. PowerPlans are identified by a yellow icon in the **PowerPlans** section. Patient information appears at the top of the screen, and the left navigation menu gives you access to modules like Anesthesia View, Orders, Allergies, and Clinical Media.



Main orders screen showing folders, subfolders, and PowerPlan icons, with patient information and the navigation menu visible.

Step 2: Search for the PACU PowerPlan

To begin placing an order, either select an order displayed in the central workspace or type the name of the desired order into the **Search New Order** field under **New Order Entry** on the right. To find the PACU PowerPlan, type **ANES** into the search field.

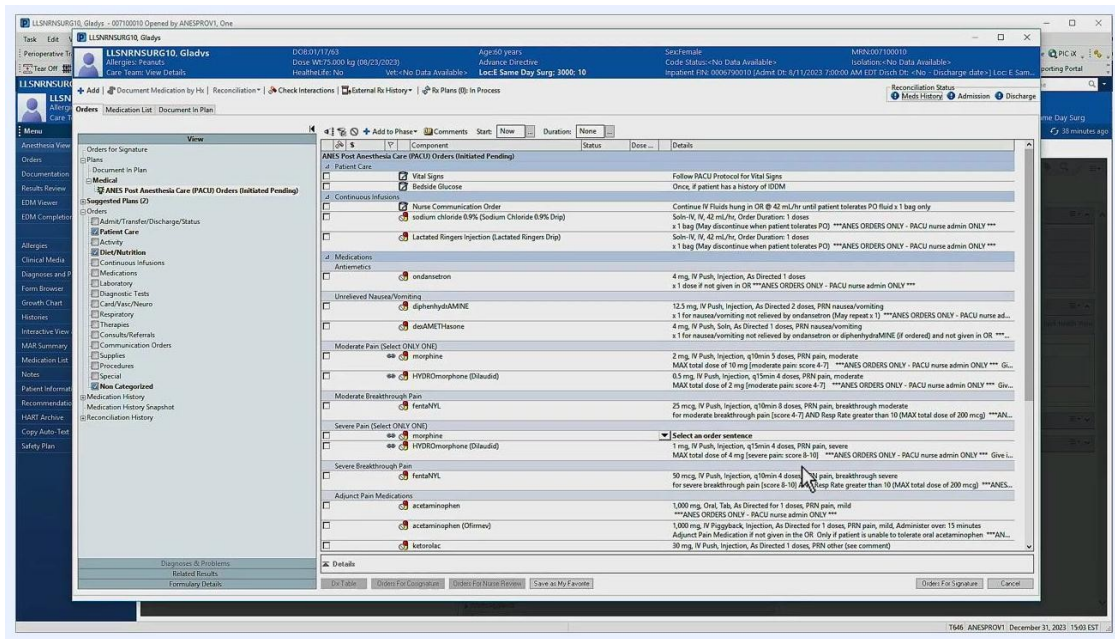
As you type, matching results appear dynamically below the search field.
Look for **ANES Post Anesthesia Care (PACU) Orders** in the results list.

The screenshot displays the LLNRSURG10 Gladys order entry interface. The top bar shows patient information: LLNRSURG10 Gladys, DOB 01/17/03, Age 60 years, and various status indicators. The left sidebar contains navigation options like Orders, Medication List, and Document in Plan. The main area shows a search for 'ANES Post Anesthesia Care (PACU) Orders' with a list of matching orders. The orders are categorized by type (Patient Care, Continuous Infusion, Medications) and include details such as drug name, dose, frequency, and route. For example, under Patient Care, there is an order for 'Vital Signs' and 'Bedside Glucose'. Under Continuous Infusion, there is an order for 'Sodium chloride 0.9% (Sodium Chloride 0.9% Drip)'. Under Medications, there are orders for 'ondansetron', 'morphine', 'HYDROMORPHONE (Dilaudid)', and 'Fentanyl'. The bottom of the screen shows a 'Details' section with a table of order details, including drug name, dose, frequency, and route.

Order entry screen showing the search field and list of matching orders.

Step 3: Select and open the PowerPlan for editing

Click the PACU PowerPlan from the search results to begin editing it. The left **View** pane indicates which PowerPlan you are currently editing. Orders available for selection are grouped into categories on the right, such as Continuous Infusions, Medications, and Pain Management. By default, none of the order boxes are checked.



PowerPlan editing screen showing order categories with unchecked boxes.

Step 4: Include orders in the PowerPlan

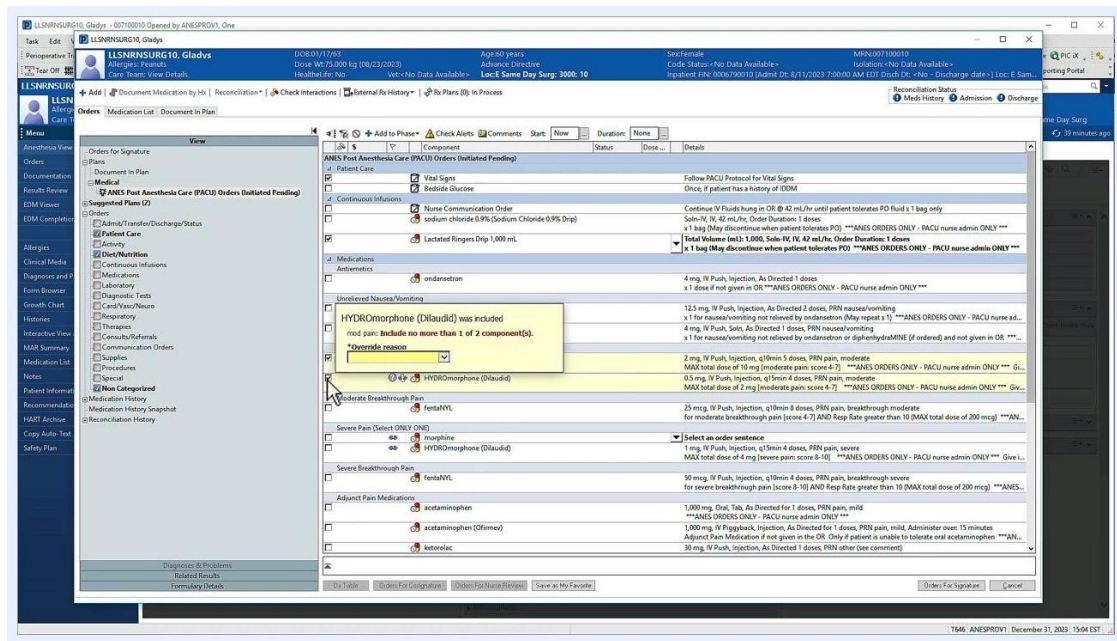
To include an order, check the box next to the item you want. Once selected, the associated order details display on the right side of the screen.

The screenshot displays the ANES Post Anesthesia Care (PACU) Orders screen. The interface includes a top navigation bar with patient information (LLSNRNSURG10, Gladys, DOB 01/17/63, Age 60 years, Sex Female) and a left sidebar with navigation options (Orders, Medication List, Document in Plan, etc.). The main area shows a list of orders with checkboxes for selection. The 'Medications' section is expanded, showing various drugs like ondansetron, morphine, and fentanyl. The 'Details' section on the right provides specific instructions for each selected order.

Order	Component	Status	Dose	Details
☐ ANES Post Anesthesia Care (PACU) Orders (Initiated Pending)				
☐ Vital Signs				Follow PACU Protocol for Vital Signs
☐ Emluise Glucose				Once, if patient has a history of IDDM
☐ Nurse Communication Order				Continue IV fluids hung in OR @ 42 mL/hr until patient tolerates PO fluid x 1 bag only
☐ Sodium chloride 0.9% (Sodium Chloride 0.9% Drip)				Sole IV, 42 mL/hr, Order Duration: 1 doses
☐ Lactated Ringers Injection (Lactated Ringers Drip)				Sole IV, 42 mL/hr, Order Duration: 1 doses
☐ Medications				
☐ Ondansetron				4 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 1 doses
☐ Unrelieved Nausea/Vomiting				x 1 dose if not given in OR ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
☐ Diphenhydramine				12.5 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 2 doses, PRN nausea/vomiting
☐ Disulfiram				x 1 for nausea/vomiting not relieved by ondansetron (May repeat x 1) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
☐ Moderate Pain (Select ONLY ONE)				
☐ Morphine				2 mg, IV Push, Injection, q10min 1 doses, PRN pain, moderate
☐ Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)				MAX total dose of 10 mg (moderate pain score 4-7) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
☐ Severe Pain (Select ONLY ONE)				
☐ Fentanyl				25 mcg, IV Push, Injection, q10min 5 doses, PRN pain, breakthrough moderate
☐ Severe Breakthrough Pain				for moderate breakthrough pain (score 4-7) AND Resp Rate greater than 10 (MAX total dose of 200 mcg) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
☐ Adjunct Pain Medication				
☐ Acetaminophen				1,000 mg, Oral, Tab, As Directed for 1 doses, PRN pain, mild
☐ Ketorolac				30 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 1 doses, PRN pain, mild, Administer over 15 minutes

Order selection screen showing checkboxes next to each order.

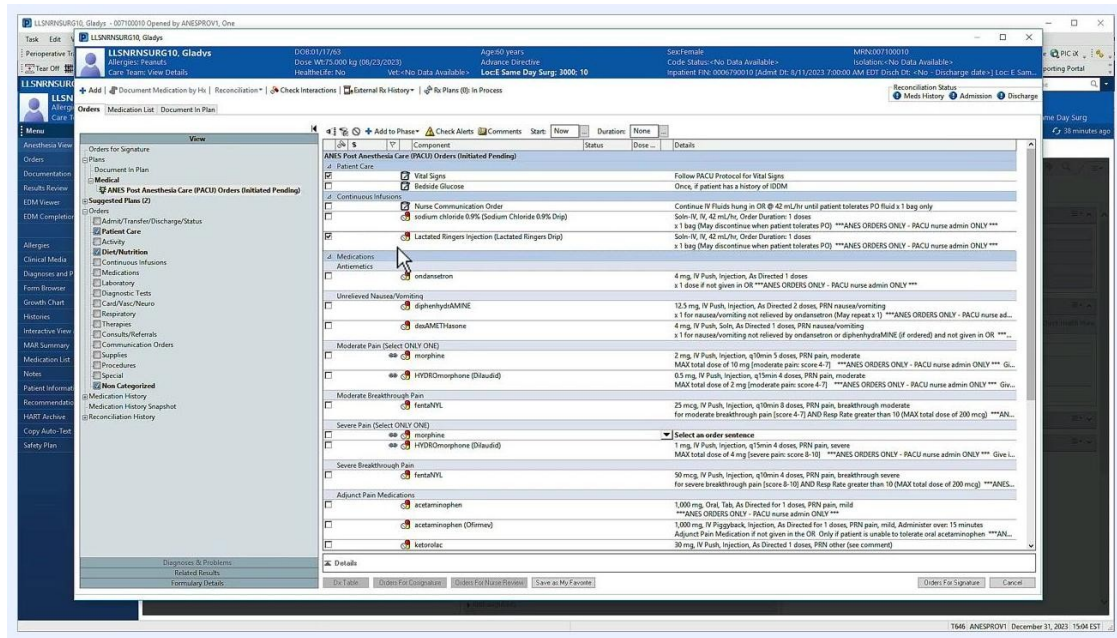
Some orders are linked, which is indicated by a chain icon, particularly in medication sections like Moderate Pain. If you select more than one linked order, a warning appears, for example, "Include no more than 1 of 2 component(s)." You can override some warnings by entering an override reason in the prompted field.



Warning message displayed after selecting multiple linked orders, with a field for entering an override reason.

Step 5: Modify order details

If you need to change an order's details, right-click the order and select **Modify**. A details pane opens below, where you can adjust settings such as dosage or frequency.



Order modification screen with the details pane open below the order.

Step 6: Select alternate order sentences

When an order has alternate details available, a drop-down icon appears next to it. Click the drop-down menu and select the order sentence that matches the patient's needs.

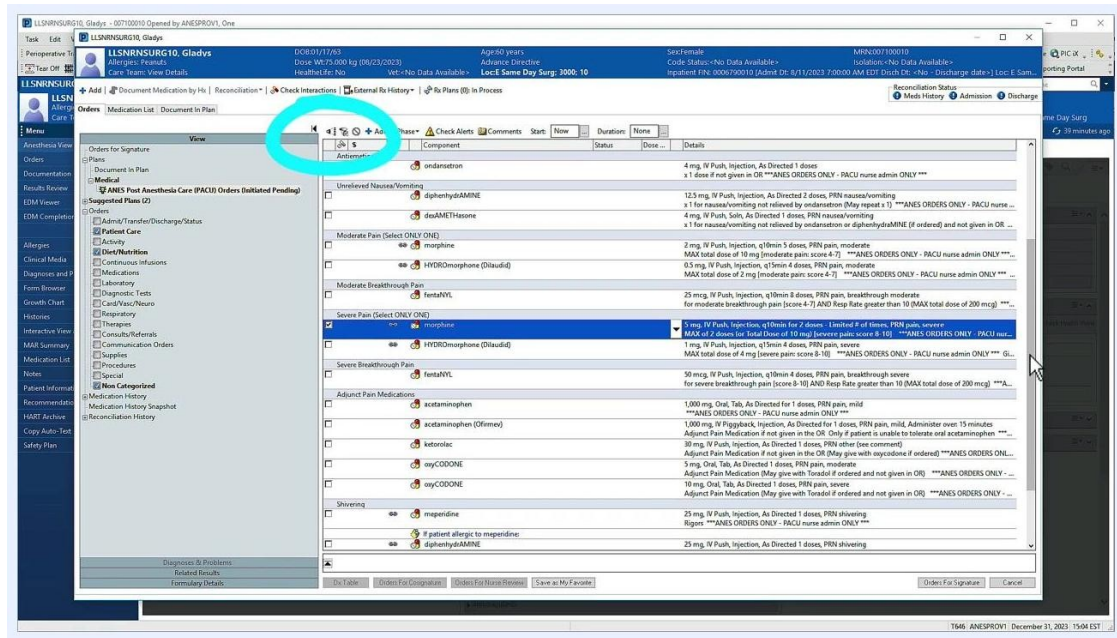
The screenshot displays the ANESPROV10 Orders window for patient LLSNRNSURG10 Gladys. The interface includes a top header with patient information, a left sidebar with navigation options, and a main table of orders. The 'Morphine' order is selected, and a drop-down menu is open next to it, showing alternate order sentences.

Component	Status	Dose	Details
ANES Post Anesthesia Care (PACU) Orders (Initiated Pending)			
Continuation of Infusion			
Vital Signs			Follow PACU Protocol for Vital Signs
Beside Glucose			Once, if patient has a history of IDDM
Nurse Communication Order			Continue IV Flush hung in OR @ 42 mL/hr until patient tolerates PO fluid x 1 bag only
Sodium chloride 0.9% (Sodium Chloride 0.9% Drip)			Sole IV, IV, 42 mL/hr, Order Duration: 1 dose ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
Lactated Ringers Drip 1,000 mL			1 bag (May discontinue when patient tolerates PO) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
Medications			
Antiemetics			
ondansetron			4 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 1 dose: x 1 dose if not given in OR ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
Unrelieved Nausea/Vomiting			
diphenhydramine			12.5 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 2 doses, PRN nausea/vomiting x 1 for nausea/vomiting not relieved by ondansetron (May repeat x 1) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
dexamethasone			4 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 1 dose, PRN nausea/vomiting x 1 for nausea/vomiting not relieved by ondansetron or diphenhydramine (if ordered) and not given in OR ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
Moderate Pain (Select ONLY ONE)			
morphine			2 mg, IV Push, Injection, q10min 5 doses, PRN pain, moderate MAX total dose of 10 mg (moderate pain score 4-7) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY *** Give L...
HYDROMORPHONE (Dilaudid)			65 mg, IV Push, Injection, q10min 4 doses, PRN pain, moderate MAX total dose of 2 mg (moderate pain score 4-7) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY *** Give L...
Moderate Breakthrough Pain			
hertanYL			25 mcg, IV Push, Injection, q10min 8 doses, PRN pain, breakthrough moderate for moderate breakthrough pain (score 4-7) AND Resp Rate greater than 10 (MAX total dose of 200 mcg) ***AN...
Severe Pain (Select ONLY ONE)			
morphine			mg, IV Push, Injection, q15min 4 doses, PRN pain, severe MAX total dose of 4 mg (severe pain score 8-10) ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY *** Give L...
HYDROMORPHONE (Dilaudid)			30 mcg, IV Push, Injection, q15min 4 doses, PRN pain, severe for severe breakthrough pain (score 8-10) AND Resp Rate greater than 10 (MAX total dose of 200 mcg) ***ANES...
Severe Breakthrough Pain			
hertanYL			30 mcg, IV Push, Injection, q15min 4 doses, PRN pain, severe for severe breakthrough pain (score 8-10) AND Resp Rate greater than 10 (MAX total dose of 200 mcg) ***ANES...
Adjunct Pain Medications			
ketorolac			1,000 mg, Oral, Tab, As Directed for 1 dose, PRN pain, mild ***ANES ORDERS ONLY - PACU nurse admin ONLY ***
ketorolac			1,000 mg, IV Fentanyl, Injection, As Directed for 1 dose, PRN pain, mild, Administer over 15 minutes Adjust Pain Medication if not given in the OR. Only if patient is unable to tolerate oral acetaminophen ***AN...
ketorolac			30 mg, IV Push, Injection, As Directed 1 dose, PRN other (see comment) ***ANES...

Drop-down menu showing alternate order sentences for a morphine order.

Step 7: Use Merge View to prevent duplicate orders

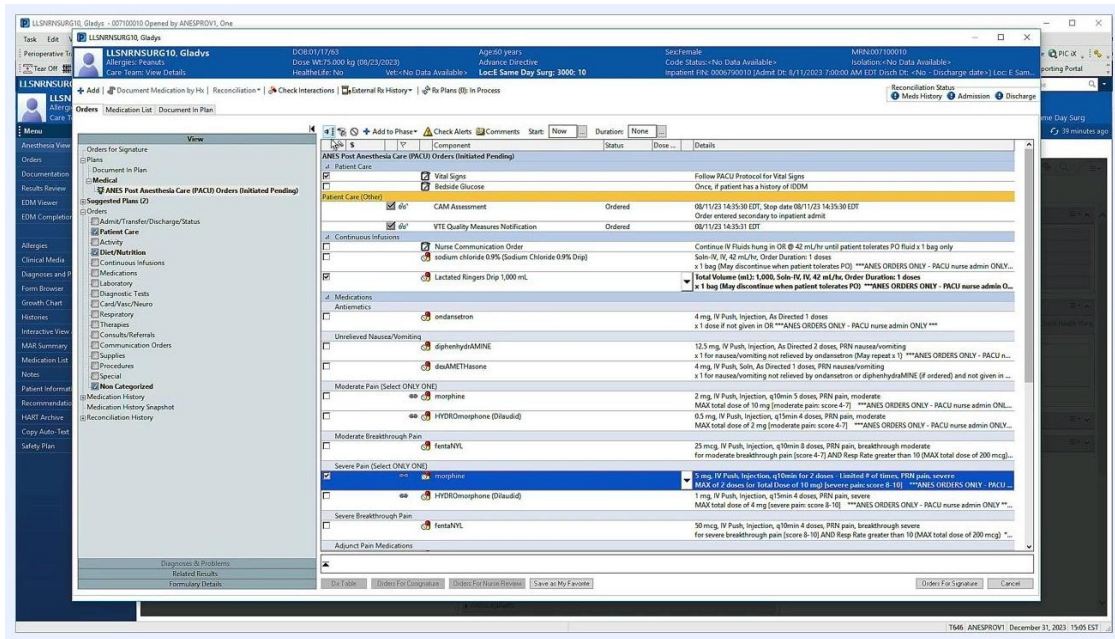
Locate the Merge View icon in the upper left of the orders window. Clicking this icon displays existing orders alongside those in the PowerPlan, helping you confirm that you are not placing duplicate orders.



Merge View icon highlighted in the upper left corner of the orders window.

Step 8: Review selected orders and reduce distractions

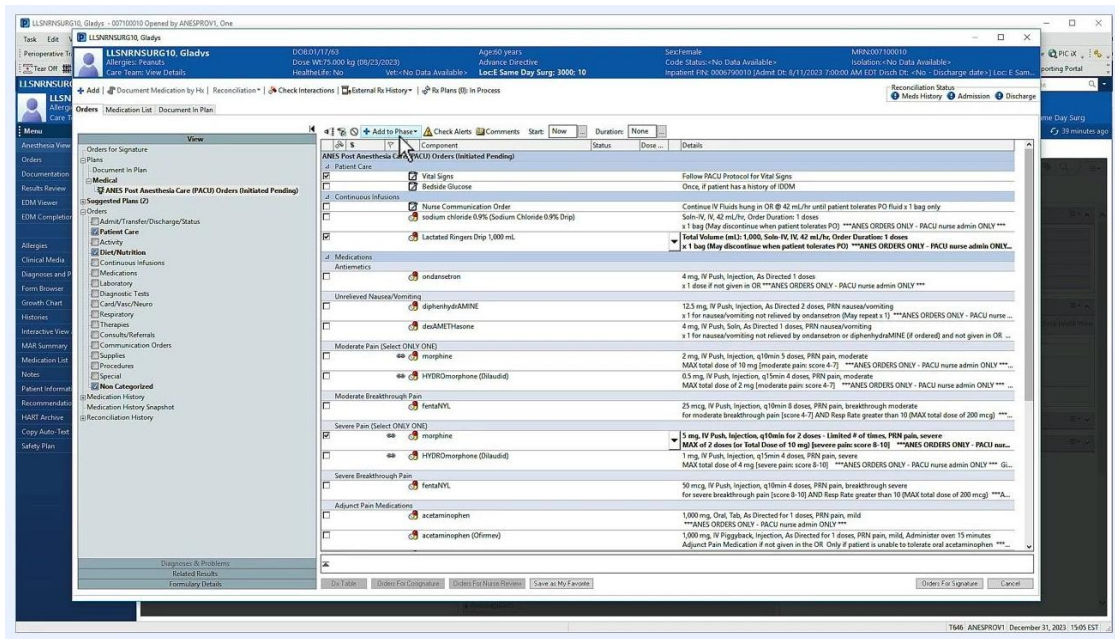
Use the filter icon next to the Merge View icon to display only the orders you have selected. This helps you quickly review your plan and limits on-screen clutter by hiding unselected orders. Confirm that your PowerPlan includes most, if not all, of the orders needed for routine patient care.



Orders screen showing the filter and Merge View icons alongside selected and unselected orders.

Step 9: Add additional orders to the PowerPlan

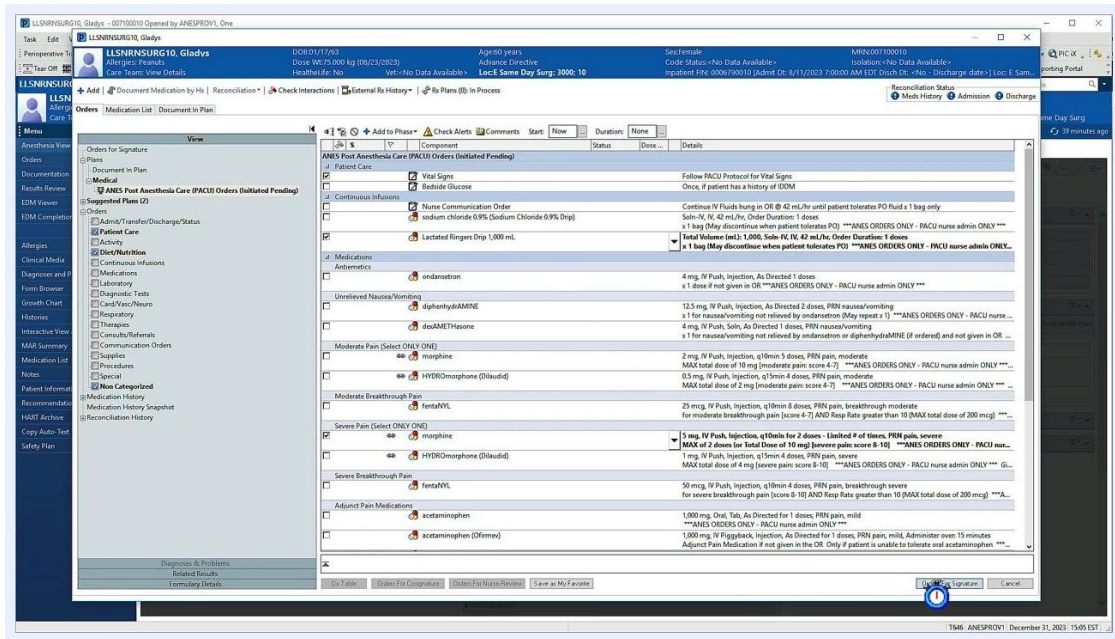
If you need to add an order that isn't already part of the PowerPlan, click **Add to Phase** at the top of the orders pane, then click **Add Order** to open the order catalog. Search for and select the order you need from the catalog. This is especially useful for orders that should be discontinued once the patient leaves the PACU.



Add to Phase and Add Order buttons highlighted at the top of the orders pane.

Step 10: Sign your orders

Once you have reviewed and finalized all orders, click **Orders for Signature** in the lower right corner of the orders window. Review the summary of orders to be signed, then click **Sign** to complete the order entry process. This finalizes your orders and submits them for execution.



Orders for Signature button highlighted in the lower right corner of the orders window.

Summary

By following these steps, you can efficiently search for, select, modify, and finalize orders within the PACU PowerPlan, ensuring accurate and complete documentation of patient care instructions in PowerChart.