
Overview

This standard is about the management of individual's fluid levels and balance post intervention or treatment. This may include a range of methods and techniques, as appropriate to the working context to ensure the individual's physiological parameters are monitored and maintained.

This standard is applicable to a wide range of health contexts and roles in emergency, primary and secondary care.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work within your level of competence, responsibility and accountability and respond in a timely manner to meet individual's needs
- P2 confirm the identity of the individual and valid consent for the intervention
- P3 respect the individual's rights and wishes relating to their, privacy, beliefs and dignity
- P4 check that any relevant equipment and medical devices are functioning within required parameters prior to use
- P5 position and support individuals , equipment and devices to optimise actions relating to maintaining fluid levels and balance in accordance with clinical governance
- P6 assess the individual's current fluid levels and balance and take appropriate action to maintain at optimum levels
- P7 adopt the most appropriate techniques, using correct levels, frequency, dosage or applications and ensuring that equipment is provided to promote independence where appropriate
- P8 ensure effective infection control at all times
- P9 check that the individual's condition is stable, comfortable and maintained within safe parameters
- P10 take immediate and appropriate action to respond to any emergency situation that arises
- P11 ensure that a sufficient supply of relevant consumables and fluids are stocked, stored and available for the individual in line with health, safety and infection control procedures
- P12 dispose of waste materials in accordance with health, safety and infection control procedures
- P13 record all information accurately, in the correct format and in accordance with record-keeping guidelines within information governance

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your own level of competence, authority and knowledge in relation to the management of fluids levels and balance
- K2 the importance of identifying the correct individual for the intervention and the consequences of not doing so
- K3 how to manage the privacy and dignity of individual's throughout required procedures
- K4 the importance of communicating with individuals and relevant carers in a manner that is consistent with their level of understanding, culture, background and preferred ways of communicating
- K5 how to avoid unnecessary discomfort or distress when taking action to maintain fluid balance and levels
- K6 the range of equipment, medical devices, materials and consumables associated with management of fluid levels and balance, their purpose and correct use
- K7 the range of parameters, and associated factors that influence the need to maintain fluid balance and levels
- K8 protocols, procedures and manufacturer's instructions for use of relevant medical equipment and devices in accordance with clinical and corporate governance
- K9 action to be taken in the event that unforeseen or unexpected reactions occurs
- K10 the importance of maintaining accurate and timely records
- K11 how and from whom to seek additional support
- K12 how to recognise faults or malfunctioning of relevant medical equipment and devices
- K13 the potential risks of contamination and possible adverse effects associated with use of medical devices
- K14 precautions for infection control and health and safety in relation to use of medical equipment, devices, and associated resources to maintain fluid and balance and the potential consequences of poor practice
- K15 the importance of safe decontamination or disposal of used medical equipment, devices and resources in accordance with national and local policies and manufacturers' instructions
- K16 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical Governance which affect your work practice
- K17 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical Governance

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB5 Provision of care to meet health and wellbeing needs

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