

SFHCHS3

Administer medication to individuals



Overview

This standard covers the administration of medication to individuals and monitoring the effects. This role is complex and will not be the role of all care staff, only those designated to undertake this activity according to their expertise and employers decisions.

The standard applies to all medication used for and by individuals, both prescribed and non-prescribed. This includes immunisation and vaccination. This standard is intended to be used in a variety of care settings including hospitals, nursing and residential homes, hospices, and community settings including the individual's own home and GP surgeries. This standard does not cover the use and administration of intra-venous medication.

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 apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control and any other relevant health and safety measures
- P2 check that all medication administration records or protocols are available, up to date and legible
- P3 report any discrepancies or omissions you might find to the person in control of the administration and to relevant staff as appropriate
- P4 read the medication administration record or medication information leaflet accurately, referring any illegible directions to the appropriate member of staff before administering any medication
- P5 check and confirm the identity of the individual who is to receive the medication with the individual themselves, and your assistant (if applicable), using a variety of methods, before administering medication
- P6 check that the individual has not taken any medication recently and be aware of the appropriate timing of medication
- P7 obtain the individuals valid consent and offer information, support and reassurance throughout, in a manner which encourages their co-operation and which is appropriate to their needs and concerns
- P8 select, check and prepare correctly the medication according to the medication administration record or medication information leaflet
- P9 select the route for the administration of medication, according to the individual's plan of care and the drug to be administered, and prepare the site if necessary
- P10 safely administer the medication:
 - P10.1 following the written instructions and in line with legislation and local policies
 - P10.2 in a way which minimises pain, discomfort and trauma to the individual
 - P10.3 report any immediate problems with the administration
- P11 check and confirm that the individual actually takes the medication and does not pass medication to others
- P12 monitor the individual's condition throughout, recognise any adverse reactions and take the appropriate action without delay
- P13 clearly and accurately enter relevant information in the correct records
- P14 maintain the security of medication throughout the process and return it to the correct place for storage
- P15 monitor and rotate stocks of medication, maintain appropriate storage conditions and report any discrepancies in stocks immediately to the relevant staff
- P16 dispose of out of date and part-used medications in accordance with legal and organisational requirements
- P17 return medication administration records to the agreed place for storage

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and maintain the confidentiality of information relating to the individual at all times

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to administering medication to individuals
- K2 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical/Corporate Governance
- K3 the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer
- K4 the importance of working within your own sphere of competence and seeking advice when faced with situations outside your sphere of competence
- K5 the importance of applying standard precautions to the administration of medication to individuals and the potential consequences of poor practice
- K6 the hazards and complications which may arise during the administration of medications and how you can minimise such risks
- K7 the importance of offering effective verbal and non-verbal support and reassurance to individuals, and appropriate ways of doing so, according to their needs
- K8 the importance of communicating effectively and how communication differences may be overcome
- K9 the factors which may compromise the comfort and dignity of individuals during drug administration - and how the effects can be minimised
- K10 the common types of medication and rules for their storage
- K11 the effects of common medication relevant to the individuals condition
- K12 medications which demand for the measurement of specific clinical measurements and why these are vital to monitor the effects of the medication
- K13 the common adverse reactions to medication, how each can be recognised and the appropriate action(s) required
- K14 the common side effects of the medication being used
- K15 the different routes of medicine administration
- K16 the information which needs to be on the label of medication, both prescribed and non-prescribed, and the significance of the information
- K17 the various aids to help individuals take their medication
- K18 the types, purpose and function of materials and equipment needed for the administration of medication via the different routes
- K19 the factors which affect the choice of materials and equipment for the administration of medication to individuals
- K20 how to read prescriptions/medication administration charts to identify:

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- K20.1 the medication required
- K20.2 the dose required
- K20.3 the route for administration
- K20.4 the time and frequency for administration
- K21 how to prepare the medication for administration using a non-touch technique
- K22 how you would check that the individual had taken their medication
- K23 how you dispose of different medications
- K24 the importance of correctly recording your activities as required
- K25 the importance of keeping accurate and up to date records
- K26 the importance of immediately reporting any issues, which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

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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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Developed by Skills for Health

Version number 1

Date approved June 2010

Indicative review date June 2012

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Skills for Health

Original URN CHS3

Relevant occupations Health, Public Services and Care; Health and Social Care; Managers and Senior Officials; Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Health and Social Services Officers; Health Associate Professionals; Personal Service Occupations; Healthcare and Related Personal Services

Suite Clinical Health Skills

Key words medicines, drug round
