
Overview

This standard covers the administration of pharmaceutical interventions in a health and care provider setting. It is most likely to apply in the administration of pharmaceuticals during other interventions that occur in the context of surgery, critical care or emergency care and delivery of medication. It does not cover the routine administration of prescribed medications to individuals or the administration of anaesthesia.

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 confirm the individuals' identity is consistent with records and ensure that they have given their informed consent for the pharmaceutical intervention to be administered
- P2 identify any known allergies or other pertinent aspects of the individuals medical history which may affect the safe administration of the pharmaceutical intervention, and respond appropriately
- P3 select and prepare equipment for the delivery of the pharmaceutical intervention and check that it is in the correct condition for use, in line with manufacturers instructions and other relevant documentation
- P4 apply standard precautions and other health and safety measures for preventing contamination or cross-infection in the intervention environment
- P5 position the individual accurately and safely to receive the intervention and prepare the site for the delivery of pharmaceutical intervention
- P6 administer the correct pharmaceutical intervention of the required dilution and dose:
 - P6.1 in line with national legislation and local protocols
 - P6.2 operating within your own's scope of authority
 - P6.3 using the appropriate delivery route and technique
 - P6.4 with minimum discomfort and trauma to the individual
- P7 check and record the individual's physiological parameters at specified intervals during and following the administration of the pharmaceutical intervention
- P8 deal appropriately and immediately with any adverse reactions or deviations from acceptable limits of the individual's physiological parameters and/or report the situation to the appropriate person
- P9 respect and maintain the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout your interaction with them
- P10 maintain timely, accurate, complete and legible records in accordance with local policies and procedures and work at all times within appropriate patient and information confidentiality guidelines and protocols
- P11 work within your scope of responsibility and accountability, referring to others where appropriate and/or necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the national and local legislation, guidelines, protocols and policies for the administration of pharmaceutical interventions
- K2 the health and safety regulations, including COSHH, in the handling of pharmaceutical interventions and sharps
- K3 the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols which affect your work practice
- K4 your responsibilities under the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols on your actions within your working environment
- K5 why it is necessary to obtain informed consent prior to working with an individual and the methods used to achieve this where the individual is not able to give their consent directly (e.g. because they are comatose or have communication differences)
- K6 the policies and guidance which clarify your scope of practice and the relationship between yourself and other members of staff in terms of delegation and supervision
- K7 policies and guidance relating to the moving and positioning of individuals and the impact they have upon your work
- K8 why it is important to get positive confirmation of the individual's identity before starting the preparation and effective methods of obtaining positive identification
- K9 the principles of asepsis in relation to the use of pharmaceuticals and equipment, the maintenance of the sterile field and the potential consequence of poor practice
- K10 the importance of following standard precautions relevant to the pharmaceutical intervention to be undertaken and the protective clothing which may be worn for the individual's and your protection
- K11 the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions
- K12 your role and the importance of working within your own scope of practice
- K13 the roles and responsibilities of other team members
- K14 the importance of informing individuals where possible about the pharmaceutical intervention being administered
- K15 the importance of considering the individual's level of understanding in answering questions about the pharmaceutical intervention
- K16 the different methods of communication you may have to use in relation to individuals with communication difficulties or differences
- K17 the importance of checking that the individual has complied with any pre-intervention instructions and possible implications if instructions are not followed
- K18 the processes you would go through in establishing any allergies or other

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- pertinent aspects of the individuals medical history which may affect the safe administration of the pharmaceutical intervention, and respond appropriately
- K19 how to practise in such a way as to minimise the risk to individuals of harm or error
 - K20 the types of problems that might arise during the course of the intervention and the responses that should be made to deal with them
 - K21 applied anatomy and general and system specific physiology and pathology in relation to the particular type of pharmaceutical intervention being undertaken, inline with current guidance in your field of practice
 - K22 the types, properties, function, effect and contra-indications of the pharmaceutical interventions commonly used within your scope of practice
 - K23 the procedures, protocols and processes, relating to the preparation and use of pharmaceutical intervention
 - K24 the appropriate methods, procedures and techniques for administering pharmaceutical interventions, in line with current guidance in this field of practice
 - K25 the types of equipment used in relation to pharmaceutical administration routes and techniques; and how to use them
 - K26 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner
 - K27 the types of information that must be recorded in relation to different activities
 - K28 the importance of recording information as soon after the event as possible

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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: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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