

PROCEDURE FOR: Safe Medication Practices in the Interventional Radiology Setting

- POLICY: 1. Safe medication practice will be based on the five "rights" of medication usage, including:
- the right patient
 - the right medication
 - the right dose
 - the right time, and
 - the right route
2. All drugs will be clearly labeled and an ongoing tally of amount(s) dispensed to the patient will be kept.

PROCEDURE:

Action

1. Verify all medication orders according to JDH/UCHC policy. Verify any medication listed on the physician's preference list with the physician before delivery to the sterile field and/or administration.
2. Confirm all verbal orders by repeating the complete order using a digit-by-digit technique for dose (i.e., one-two, not twelve) and recording the order in the medical record as soon as feasible.
3. Treat radiopaque dyes and specimen preservatives in the Radiology suite with the same care and caution as medications.
4. Verbally and visually verify all medications used, including medication, strength, dosage, and expiration date. The nurse and radiology technologist should do verifications concurrently, as appropriate. If there is no other licensed staff member present, the circulating nurse should verify the medication with the licensed professional performing the imaging procedure.
5. Deliver medications to any sterile field in an aseptic manner. Do not remove stoppers from vials for the purpose of pouring medications. Use commercially available transfer devices when possible.
6. Individually verify all medication and complete its preparation for administration, delivery to the sterile field, and labeling on the field before another medication is prepared.
7. Label all medications, medication containers (eg, syringes, medicine cups, basins), or other solutions on the sterile field even if there is only one medication involved. Include the name and strength of the medication on the labels. All labels should be verified verbally by stating medication, strength, and dosage, and visually by the technologist and nurse concurrently.
8. Discard any solution or medication found in the Radiology suite without an identification label.
9. When passing a medication to the licensed professional performing the procedure, verbally verify the medication, strength, and dose with that practitioner by reading the medication label aloud.

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10. One RN and another qualified individual should verify and double-check all medication calculations.
11. At shift change or break relief, all medications and their labels should be noted and verified concurrently by the entering and exiting personnel.
12. All containers from medications used during any procedure must remain readily available in the procedure room until conclusion of the procedure.

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/03