

IV Preparations

Statement of Best Practice

Any patient requiring IV preparations will have them administered correctly, by an appropriately trained registered practitioner, to meet their individual needs.

Introduction

This guideline aims to consider several areas for safe administration of intravenous medications and fluids. These areas include infection control, patient comfort and safe administration.

Guidelines

Intravenous Fluid Therapy in Adults in Hospital - (CG174) NICE 2013

National Competency Framework for Adult Critical Care Nurses - CC3N 2013

Standards for Medicines Management - NMC 2010

Please also refer to local policy

Education and Training Risk Assessment

All staff should complete the following training:

- Trust induction/Trust IV training day to be attended
- Local IV package and national competency to be completed
- Local V.I.Ps policy and assessment explained

Assessment of Requirement for IV Preparation

Assess the need for IV use.

Consider the patients oral intake when reviewing IV fluids.

Consider if the patient can be administered an oral equivalent.

When administering IV pain relief, has the patient been asked if they are in pain, or are they being given the medication because it is prescribed?

Must have knowledge of the drug being administered to assess requirement.

Documentation of Preparation and administration of IV preparation

- Prescription of medication and fluid is in accordance with Trust guidelines and prescribed by an authorised practitioner.
- The drug chart must have the patient's name, date of birth and hospital number clearly marked on the front of the drug chart.
- Knowledge of the patients' allergies and sensitivities must be documented on the front of the drug chart, along with the reaction they suffer.
- Consider the 'Six R's' of administration
 - ❖ **Right Patient**
 - ❖ **Right Documentation**
 - ❖ **Right Drug**
 - ❖ **Right Dose**
 - ❖ **Right Time**
 - ❖ **Right Route**
- If drug has a toxicity level, that the levels have been checked when required and levels are safe before administration.
- Two person check and IV prescription signed. Drug additive label filled in correctly and two signatures in appropriate places.
- If administering medications, adhere to local policy/manufacture guidelines to ensure correct solution mixing agent and infusion time.
- Use appropriate infection prevention techniques and ensure hand hygiene guidelines have also been met.
- If using infusion device, adequate knowledge and education given for safe administration.

Evaluation and Reassessment

- Monitor to see if drug or fluid has had the desired effect.
- Monitor to see if there have been any adverse effects, if so, the medical team have been informed and the patient has been assessed immediately.

- Check the site of the cannula regularly to ensure no extravasation has occurred.
- Document and report any unpredicted incidents.

Equipment/Resources

- Ensure correct equipment is available for all patients.
- Ensure regular device training has been given.
- If using giving sets, correct education has been given on their use.
- Check your areas information on mixing of drugs (BNF, local pharmacy policy, manufacturers information)
- Safe disposal of equipment used.

References

Intravenous Fluid Therapy in Adults in Hospital - (CG174) NICE 2013

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Standards for Medicines Management - NMC 2010