

El Paso - Ambulatory Clinic Policy and Procedure

Title: INTRAVENOUS MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION	Policy Number: EP 4.7
Regulation: Joint Commission, Current Nursing Skills Test Reference:	Effective Date: 03/2014

Policy Statement:

To identify those medications that may be administered either by direct IV push or in IV solution by licensed nursing personnel. This policy also serves to standardize the administration of IV medications that require strict monitoring.

Scope and Distribution:

This policy applies and will be distributed to all Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso (TTUHSC at El Paso) ambulatory clinics.

Procedure:

1. An RN or LVN who has completed an IV therapy training program may be qualified to start an IV. With a physician's written order, IV therapy qualified nurses may administer IV medications via IV tubing or heparin lock after verifying the accuracy of the dosage with another qualified nurse or a physician.
2. The licensed nurse is responsible for identifying solution compatibilities, rate of administration and authorization for administration in accordance with the guidelines of this policy.
3. A licensed nurse must administer IV medications within the scope of the BNE and in accordance with protocol set forth in standard reference manual (current nursing skills text).
 - a. Clarify any order or treatment regimen that the nurse has reason to believe is inaccurate, non-efficacious or contraindicated by consulting with the appropriate licensed practitioner.
 - b. Verify patient identification by asking the patient his/her name and date of birth and comparing to the medical record.
 - c. Know the rationale for and the effects of medications and treatment and correctly administer the same.
4. Narcotic analgesics or other medications utilized for conscious sedation require the responsible physician to be present in the clinic.
5. In most cases, standardized concentrations should be used for medication infusions. Nurses may titrate infusions within the parameters ordered by a physician.
6. Nursing staff unfamiliar or uncomfortable with administration of a medication will communicate with the nurse manager for further action and/or discussion.

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7. Pediatric guidelines
 - a. Hang no more than 250 cc bottle/bag.
 - b. The IV should be maintained on an IV infusion pump with free-flow protection.
 - c. The IV should be closely monitored.
 - d. Venipuncture on children and infants should only be initiated by experienced personnel.
 - e. IV administration sets should include a microdrop (soluset).

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Signatory approval on file by: Michael J. Romano, M.D. Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs Clinic Operations Committee, Chair Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso	