

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

II-8 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY IV INFUSION

Policy:

- To establish guidelines for administration of medications in a slower and more controlled manner than IV push.

Equipment:

- Gloves and other PPE as necessary
- Medication to be administered.
- Syringe to transfer medications or previously prepackaged, assembled syringe with medication.
- Bag of solution or diluent.
- Two safety needles:
 - Preferably 18 gauge 1 inch.
- Antiseptic cleansing solution (alcohol prep pads)
- Appropriate administration set, extension set.
- Label
- Tape

Procedure:

- Don PPE
- Assemble all necessary supplies and equipment:
- Check for the six rights of medication administration as well as:
 - Expiration date.
 - Seal leakage.
 - Contamination.
 - Abnormal color.
 - Cloudiness.
- Assess IV for patency.
- Confirm the order/dosage by writing it down.
- Ascertain if patient has an allergy to the medication or fluid you are preparing to administer.
- Explain to the patient:
 - The medication administration procedure.
 - Advise patient of effects and possible side effects that may result.
- Obtain the fluid or medication.
- If you are using an ampule:
 - Shake it down:
 - This will force the solution to the lower portion to prevent spillage.
 - Using one 4X4 gauze pad or alcohol prep:
 - Break the ampule.
 - Affix the 18 gauge needle to the syringe:
 - Withdraw the solution from the ampule.
- If you are withdrawing the medication from a multi dose vial:
 - Remove the top of the vial.
 - Cleanse the rubber top of the medication vial with an antiseptic cleansing solution.

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II-8 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY IV INFUSION (continued)

- Draw up air into your syringe with needle attached to equal the amount of fluid that is to be withdrawn.
- Insert the needle into the vial:
 - Invert the vial.
 - Inject the drawn up air into the vial.
 - Keep the needle below the fluid level.
 - Withdraw the required amount of medication or fluid.
 - Withdraw the syringe and needle and invert the syringe and expel any air.
- Locate a medication port on the IV bag and cleanse with antiseptic solution.
- Insert needle with syringe into the medication port.
- Inject the required amount of medication into the IV bag.
- Remove the syringe and needle from the medication port:
 - DO NOT RECAP THE NEEDLE:
 - Dispose of the needles and syringe in an approved puncture resistant bio-hazard container.
- Monitor the patient for:
 - The desired therapeutic effects
 - Possible side effects.
 - Potential complications.

Documentation:

- Who attempted/performed task.
- Name, concentration and dosage of medication.
- Any complications or undesired side effects.
- Were desired therapeutic effects attained?
- Time medication administered.
- Label the bag with medication information:
 - Name of medication.
 - Amount and concentration of medication.
 - Your name.
 - Time medication added.
 - Flow rate for IV fluids.