

Southern Illinois Regional EMS System

II-15 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS VIA NEBULIZER

1. Policy:
 - 1.1. To establish guidelines for the administration of medications via a nebulizer.
2. Equipment:
 - 2.1. Glove and full face protection.
 - 2.2. Medication to be instilled into the nebulizer.
 - 2.3. Sterile saline for dilution – humidification.
 - 2.4. Nebulizer with oxygen connecting tubing.
 - 2.5. Oxygen.
 - 2.6. 4X4's or Kleenex.
 - 2.7. Convenience bag or emesis basin.
 - 2.8. Stethoscope.
3. Procedure:
 - 3.1. Put on gloves and full face protection.
 - 3.2. Assemble required equipment, medication and supplies.
 - 3.2.1. Check for:
 - 3.2.1.1. Correct medication, or fluid.
 - 3.2.1.2. Expiration date.
 - 3.2.1.3. Seal leakage.
 - 3.2.1.4. Contamination.
 - 3.2.1.5. Abnormal color.
 - 3.2.1.6. Cloudiness.
 - 3.3. Confirm the order/dosage by writing it down.
 - 3.4. Ascertain from the patient if he/she has an allergy to the medication that you are to administer.
 - 3.5. Explain the medication administration procedure to the patient.
 - 3.5.1. If the mist will be inhaled via a mouthpiece:
 - 3.5.1.1. The patient will need to tightly seal their lips around the mouthpiece and breathe only through their mouth.
 - 3.5.2. If the mist will be inhaled via a mask:
 - 3.5.1.2. There should be a tight fit to the face to avoid any excess leakage.
 - 3.6. Prepare the nebulizer for administration of desired medication:
 - 3.6.1. Instill the required amount of medication into the dropper.
 - 3.6.2. Installation should be via dropper or syringe as indicated by the manufactures direction for the specific medication.
 - 3.6.3. Add the required diluent.
 - 3.6.4. Reassemble the nebulizer according to the manufactures directions.
 - 3.6.5. Turn on the oxygen to the required flow.
 - 3.7. Place patient into a sitting position for maximum respiratory movement.
 - 3.8. Direct the patient to inhale slowly and deeply to allow their lungs to be filled, and to then exhale as completely as possible before the next inspiration.
 - 3.9. If the patient needs to expectorate, have 4X4's or Kleenex and emesis basin available.
 - 3.10. Continue the procedure until the nebulizer is no longer discharging the humidified oxygen mixture.
 - 3.11. Reconnect any previous oxygen to the patient.
 - 3.12. Auscultate lung fields following procedure to assess any change in patient condition.
 - 3.13. Monitor the patient for desired therapeutic effects and/or possible complications.

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4. Documentation:
 - 4.1. Who performed task.
 - 4.2. PPE and equipment used.
 - 4.3. Name, concentration – dosage of medication.
 - 4.4. Any complications or undesired side effects.
 - 4.5. Were desired therapeutic effects attained?
 - 4.6. Time medication was administered.