Intradermal Injections

Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidelines for the administration of medication by intradermal injection.

Preparation

1. Verify that there is a physician's medication order for this procedure. Verify the order for resident's name, drug name, dose, time, and route of administration.
2. Review the resident's care plan to assess for any special needs of the resident.
3. Assemble the equipment and supplies as needed.
4. Provide privacy.

General Guidelines

1. Follow the medication administration guidelines in the policy entitled *Administering Medications*.

Equipment and Supplies

The following equipment and supplies will be necessary when performing this procedure.

1. 1cc tuberculin syringe with preattached 26 or 27 gauge needle;
2. Alcohol swabs;
3. Prescribed medication;
4. Medication administration record;
5. Sharps container; and
6. Personal protective equipment (e.g., gowns, gloves, mask, etc., as needed).

Steps in the Procedure

1. Perform hand antisepsis.
2. Put on gloves.
3. Place the equipment on the bedside stand or overbed table. Arrange the supplies so that they can be easily reached.
4. Assist resident to a comfortable position with the elbow and forearm extended and supported on a flat surface.
5. Select appropriate injection site approximately 3 to 4 finger-widths below the antecubital space and a hand-width above the wrist.
6. Clean the site with an alcohol swab using a circular motion from the proposed site of injection outward.
7. Remove needle cap by pulling it straight off.
8. Hold syringe between thumb and forefinger of dominant hand with bevel of needle pointing up. With nondominant hand, stretch skin over site with forefinger or thumb.
9. Insert the needle into the resident's skin at a 5° to 15° angle. Advance the needle through the epidermis approximately one-eighth (1/8) of an inch below the skin's surface. The needle tip can be seen through the skin.
10. Inject medication slowly. You should see a small bubble appear as the medication is injected.
11. Withdraw needle while applying alcohol swab gently over the site. Do not massage the site.
12. Discard uncapped needle and syringe into designated sharps container.
13. Discard all disposable items into designated containers.
14. Remove gloves and discard in designated container. Perform hand antisepsis.
15. Clean the bedside stand and/or overbed table. Return the overbed table to its proper position.

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Steps in the Procedure (continued)

16. Wash and dry your hands thoroughly.
17. Reposition the bed covers. Make the resident comfortable.
18. Place the call light within easy reach of the resident.
19. If the resident desires, return the door and curtains to the open position and if visitors are waiting, tell them that they may now enter the room.

Documentation

Follow documentation guidelines in the procedure entitled *Documentation of Medication Administration*.

Reporting

1. Notify the supervisor if the resident refuses the procedure.
2. Report other information in accordance with facility policy and professional standards of practice.

References	
MDS (RAPs)	12(i); O3
Survey Tag Numbers	F328
Related Documents	Administering Medications Documentation of Medication Administration
Risk of Exposure	Blood–Body Fluids–Infectious Diseases–Air Contaminants–Hazardous Chemicals
Procedure Revised	Date: **10-27-2017** By:_____ Date:_____ By:_____ Date:_____ By:_____ Date:_____ By:_____