



Department:	Nursing		
Document:	Internal Policy and Procedure		
Title:	Administration of Drugs by Incorporation Into IV Infusion		
Applies To:	All Nursing Staff		
Preparation Date:	January 08, 2025	Index No:	NR-IPP-015
Approval Date:	January 22, 2025	Version :	2
Effective Date:	February 22, 2025	Replacement No.:	NR-IPP-015 (1)
Review Date:	February 22, 2028	No. of Pages:	03

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide guidelines in giving drugs through incorporation in the IV infusion that cannot be given orally or intramuscularly and ensure accurate dose.

2. DEFINITONS:

- 2.1 Administration of drugs by incorporation into IV infusion: incorporating or adding medication into running IV infusion.

3. POLICY:

- 3.1 The nursing staff should follow aseptic technique when incorporating medication into running IV infusion.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 Check for physician's written order.
- 4.2 Verify the patient by two identifiers (four names for Saudi/ complete name for Non-Saudi and the medical record number).
- 4.3 Observe for 10 rights of medication administration.
- 4.4 Explain the procedure to the patient, to obtain the patient's consent and cooperation.
- 4.5 Inspect the infusion and the cannulation site, to check it is running satisfactorily and if the patient is experiencing any discomfort at the site of insertion.
- 4.6 Wash hands and assemble the necessary equipment.
- 4.7 Wear gloves.
- 4.8 Prepare the prescribed drug for incorporation.
- 4.9 Check the name, strength and volume of intravenous fluid against the physician order to ensure that the correct type and quantity of fluid are administered. A second nurse should check with you.
- 4.10 Check the expiry date of the fluid and inspect the container and contents in a good light for cracks, punctures, air bubbles, discoloration, haziness and crystals, to prevent an ineffective or toxic compound being administered to the patient.
- 4.11 Check the name and amount of drug to be added into the IV solution, to minimize any risk of error, to ensure safe and effective administration of drug, to enable anticipation of toxicities.
 - 4.11.1 Compatibility of fluid and additive.
 - 4.11.2 Stability of mixture over the prescribed time.
 - 4.11.3 Any special directions for dilution
 - 4.11.4 Sensitivity to external factors such as light.
- 4.12 Anticipate all allergic reaction. If any doubt exists about the listed points, consult the pharmacist.
- 4.13 Drug to be incorporated should be prepared immediately before use, to prevent any possible microbial growth or degradation.
- 4.14 Expose the injection site on the container by removing the seal present and disinfect the site with alcohol swab and allow it to dry, to maintain asepsis.

- 4.15 Inject the drug (using a new sterile needle) into the bag, bottle or burette. A 23 gauge needle should be used, to enable resealing of the latex or rubber injection site.
- 4.16 If the drug to be added into a burette that is already at the bedside:
 - 4.16.1 Avoid contamination of the needle and inlet port.
 - 4.16.2 Check the correct quantity of fluid is in the chamber.
- 4.17 Invert the container a number of times, especially if adding to a flexible infusion bag and check for haziness, discolorations etc.
 - 4.17.1 To ensure adequate mixing of the drug.
 - 4.17.2 To detect any incompatibility or degradation.
- 4.18 Make the drug additive label and fix it on the bag, bottle or burette, to maintain accurate records.
- 4.19 Place the container in a clean tray. Wash hand and proceed to the patient, to maintain asepsis.
- 4.20 Check the IV infusion is infusing well and the contents of the previous container have been infused, to confirm that the vein and or cannula remain patent, to ensure that the preceding prescribed has been administered.
- 4.21 Switch off the infusion and hang the new container using a sterile technique, to achieve a safe and aseptic change over.
- 4.22 Restart the infusion and adjust the rate of flow as prescribed, to deliver the mixture accurately.
- 4.23 Tell the patient to inform the staff nurse for any untoward manifestations. If so investigate.
- 4.24 Discard waste, making sure that it is placed into the correct containers, e.g. "sharps" into a yellow sharp container, to ensure safe disposal and avoid injury to staff to prevent re use of equipment.

5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 5.1 Clean tray containing the prepared drug to be administered
- 5.2 Intravenous infusion stand
- 5.3 Syringes
- 5.4 Intravenous administration set
- 5.5 Alcohol swab
- 5.6 Alcohol based hand wash solution
- 5.8 Drug additive
- 5.9 Gloves

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 6.1 Nurse





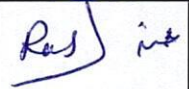
7. APPENDICES:

- 7.1 N/A

8. REFERENCES:

- 8.1 MOH, General Special Procedure, GNR-03-026

9. APPROVALS:

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