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Clinical Protocol for Medication Administration

The following procedures shall be followed to ensure safe medication administration by Bellevue College Associate Degree nursing students. These include abiding by the Ten Rights of Medication Administration as well as adhering to clinical facility/agency protocols, Washington State licensure regulations and utilizing [National Patient Safety Goals](#).

Orientation to Safe Medication Administration


Students will be provided with theoretical and practical learning experiences focused on the safe administration of medications. These will be tailored to their academic level and scaffolded as they progress through the ADN program. Before progressing to clinical settings under supervision, students must successfully complete simulated exercises in the Skills Lab specifically honing their medication administration skill both with and without an automated dispensing device depending on where they are in the continuum of learning. Any actual medication administration to patients requires continuous oversight by a clinical facility licensed registered nurse or Bellevue College clinical instructor. The student orientation to safe medication practices encompasses a variety of simulated learning encounters, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the process. Orientation includes activities such as:

- online learning modules that include demonstrations and tutorials of Automated Dispensing Devices (see reference list)
- pharmacology content in theory courses
- demonstrations and practice with Automated Dispensing Devices (see reference list)
- demonstrations and practice with medication administration devices (such as IV pumps, syringes, dispensing devices)
- medication calculation lessons and practice in Skills Labs
- simulated patient cases in the Simulation Labs that utilize barcode medication administration
- documentation of medication administration on simulated electronic medication administration records (e.g. ATI's EHR Tutor)

Ensuring Readiness for Safe Medication Administration

To ensure readiness for safe medication administration in the clinical setting, students will engage in a variety of learning experiences and assessments, including but not limited to:

- correct reading and interpretation of a medication order

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- safe identification of patient(s) using two unique patient identifiers
- routes of medication administration
- safe use of Automated Dispensing Devices (ADDs) and other medication systems
- processes for administration of controlled substances
- processes for medication waste
- accurate dosage calculations
- accurate volumes and rates calculations
- correct documentation on medication administration records
- use of clinical judgement
- integration of the 10 rights of medication administration
- demonstrating competency on the med admin skills checklists


Before utilizing Automated Dispensing Devices (ADDs) in clinical settings, students are required to undergo online tutorial training. Additionally, they will receive on-site orientation sessions specific to agency designated ADDs, under the supervision of a licensed nurse (either instructor, preceptor or facility nurse). The instructor's Clinical Expectations document and/or the online Learning Management System (e.g., Canvas) will provide information on safe medication administration procedures. Detailed guidelines are accessed by nursing students and clinical faculty in the clinical agency's Policies and Procedures.

Evaluation of Medication Administration Competency

To ensure the competence of students in the safe administration of medication within a clinical environment, a comprehensive evaluation will be conducted prior to attending clinical. This evaluation will encompass a range of methods, including but not limited to:

- Achieving >90% on ATI medication administration assessments. Refer to Medication Administration Testing Process
- Observation and feedback of mock medication administration in Skills and Simulation Labs
- Demonstration of safe and effective medication administration in Skills Lab and achieving a passing grade in each required skill (graded by faculty using skills checklists)
- Participating in on-site facility training on Automated Dispensing Devices
- Passing facility required medication calculation tests

Clinical Protocols


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- Before administering ANY medication to a client, the student must seek the guidance of the clinical instructor and demonstrate competency by successful completion of medication administration modules and assessments.
- Medication administration must occur with a clinical instructor or facility registered nurse. Senior practicum students will abide by clinical facility policies at all times. **Facility policy may supersede the Bellevue College Policy.** If no facility policy exists, the senior practicum student will administer with facility registered nurse.
- Students **may not administer the following:**
 - Blood
- Students **may not administer the following high-risk medications** unless there is documented facility policy allowing for supervised administration, and it follows the scope of practice [Decision Tree](#):
 - Insulin drips
 - Vasopressors
 - Anticoagulation and platelet inhibitors
 - Scheduled 2 & 3 controlled substances including Patient Controlled Analgesia (PCA)
 - Intravenous Electrolyte Replacement (examples may include, 3% NS, Potassium)

The **senior practicum student** will abide by clinical facility policies. If no facility policy exists, the senior practicum student will follow the above guidelines.

- The medication administration process should include a discussion with student, faculty, and or staff regarding the following:

ADVERSE REACTIONS
ALLERGIES
CLIENT EDUCATION
CORRECT MEDICATION CALCULATION
DOCUMENTATION
INTERACTIONS: FOOD AND DRUG
NURSING CONSIDERATION & INDICATIONS
REASON CLIENT IS RECEIVING THIS MEDICATION
RIGHT CLIENT
RIGHT DOSE
RIGHT MEDICATION
RIGHT MEDICATION ORDER
RIGHT OF CLIENT TO REFUSE THE MEDICATION
RIGHT ROUTE
RIGHT TIME
SIDE EFFECTS

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Safety Event Reporting

Per Washington Administrative Code (WAC) [246-840-519](#), faculty and students are required to report and log events that the nursing education program has reason to believe resulted in patient harm, unreasonable risk of patient harm, near miss or diversion of legend drugs. Refer to the Standard Operating Procedures: Safety Event Reporting and Safety Event Reporting Tool found on the Bellevue College [ADN Guiding Practices for Students](#)

WACs

[WAC 246-840-519](#): Student requirements in all approved nursing education programs.

[WAC 246-840-513](#): Reporting and recordkeeping requirements for nursing education programs.

[WAC 246 -874 CHAPTER.fm](#) (WAC 246-874-070) Nursing students ADDD access.

Medication Administration Associated Guidelines

- [Medication Administration 101: Basic Rights, Routes, and Principles | Institute For Safe Medication Practices \(ismp.org\)](#)
- [Ten Rights of Medication Administration](#)
- [WA DOH Practice Resources](#)
- ADD Lessons & Tutorial Videos included in ATI Modules and Canvas Modules
 - Tutorial: Dosage Calculation and Safe Medication Administration 3.0 --> Module: Oral Medications
 - Simulation: Skills Modules 3.0 --> Module: Concepts of medication administration (Preparing medications video tutorial and Preparing narcotics video tutorial)
 - Tutorial: Nurse's Touch: Nursing Informatics and Technology --> Module: Information Management Systems

Automated Dispensing Devices (ADDs)

- [SimCabRXUserGuide.pdf](#)
- [MedSkillsQuickStartGuide.pdf](#)
- [SimCartRXStandardGuide.pdf](#)
- [KBPortManual.pdf](#)
- [Skills Checklist – Administering Piggyback Intermittent Intravenous Medications.pdf](#)