



Injection Preparation



1 Preparing for the procedure

- a. Perform hand hygiene.
- b. Check order with approved clinician ensuring right patient, drug, dose, route, time, documentation and clinical indication.



2 Performing the procedure

- a. Remove any medication trapped in neck of ampoule by moving it in a circular motion or by flicking upper portion of ampoule.
- b. Break open ampoule by snapping away from your body.
- c. Attach needle to syringe.
- d. Remove needle cap without contaminating needle or syringe tip.
- e. Withdraw all medication from ampoule.
- f. Draw back a small amount of air into barrel to remove all medication from drawing up needle.
- g. Hold syringe vertically, gently push on plunger to expel air and ensure correct volume of medication remains in syringe.
- h. Discard drawing up needle in to sharps container.
- i. Attach administration needle.
- j. Place syringe, needle, medication ampoule and alcohol swab in medication tray and take to patient with medication order and sharps container.



References

- Dougherty, L & Lister, S Eds. The Royal Marsden Hospital Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures. 8th ed. United Kingdom: Wiley Blackwell 2011.
- Tollefson J. Clinical Psychomotor Skills: Assessment Tools for Nursing Students. 5th ed. Melbourne: Cengage Learning Australia; 2012.
- Smith S, Duell D, Martin B. Clinical Nursing Skills: Basic to Advanced Skills. 8th ed. New Jersey: Pearson Education 2012.

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Background

The preparation of medications for injection is a skill that requires great care from the relevant health professional. Checking that the medication order is current and legal and that the five rights are adhered to prior to administration is essential to ensure the patient is kept safe..

Equipment required

- Hand sanitiser
- Medication tray
- Alcohol swab
- Syringe of closest capacity to hold medication
- Drawing up needle
- Administration needle, appropriate gauge (consider route, site, client's size and viscosity of medication)
- Sharps container
- Medication ampoule (vial and reconstitution not described here)
- Medication chart

Please visit the website for more videos and additional information.



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