POLICY TITLE: MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Purpose

The Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty are committed to safe medication administration and reduction of medication errors. A medication administration policy along with appropriate faculty supervision is necessary for safe student medication administration. Failure to follow this policy and procedure will result in administrative withdrawal from the program.

Medication Administration Proficiency Exam

Please refer to Student Testing Policy S127.

Medication Administration Procedure

1. Each semester students will be evaluated by Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty for medication administration safety. Once the student has been supervised during medication administration by the Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty (for each route), the faculty will determine if supervision can be provided by a staff RN/preceptor. The student will be notified via clinical course passport when they may be safely supervised by a staff RN/preceptor for medication administration.

2. Students will perform three medication checks to verify right medication.

3. Students will verbalize the twelve rights of medication administration to faculty and/or preceptor before entering the patient room to administer medication (i.e., right drug, patient, reason, dose, route, time, preparation, assessment, education, refuse, document, and response).

4. Students will verbalize and demonstrate a safe level of knowledge and skill of every medication to be administered including purpose of the medication, route, dosage, indications, incompatibilities, side effects.

5. Students will not administer medications to patients until they have verified all medications with the Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty or staff RN/preceptor when approved by faculty, and medications are checked against the patient’s medication record. Any calculations will be verified by clinical faculty or staff RN/Preceptor.

6. Students may give secondary intravenous (IV) medications (IV piggyback) under the supervision of the Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty or staff RN/preceptor when approved by faculty.

7. Students may NOT administer IV push or direct IV administration of medications without direct supervision from Gessner College of Nursing CLINICAL FACULTY.

8. Students will NOT:
   a. Administer chemotherapy (in any route or any form).
   b. Set up or manipulate patient controlled analgesic (PCA) /Epidural pumps.
c. Students cannot access or manage a central line catheter in any way (i.e. including accessing a central line to administer any medication including initiating IV medication drip, flushing a central line, or collecting a blood sample from a central line catheter). Students will not discontinue central line catheters at any time.

d. Pull cardiac sheaths.

e. Manage heparin, vasoactive medication or anti-arrhythmic medications intravenously.

f. Administer insulin in any form.

g. Administer blood products.

h. Administer narcotic medications (no routes allowed).

i. Alter IV rates on controllers or IV pumps unless Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty are present or staff RN/Preceptor are present and under direct supervision.

j. Titrate any IV medications.

Patient Care Variance Reports

1. Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty shall complete a UH Student Counseling form whenever a medication error or an injury (to patient or visitor) involves a student. A copy of the UH Student Counseling form will be provided to the Associate Dean.

2. Students shall not complete any hospital-based patient care variance report without the presence of Gessner College of Nursing clinical faculty.

Approved by Gessner College of Nursing Faculty Council: 03/01/2024

Approved by Dean Kathryn Tart: 04/18/2024