



CAYMAN ISLANDS NURSING AND MIDWIFERY COUNCIL

Medication Administration Guidelines Registered Nursing Assistant

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines regarding medication administration by the Registered Nursing Assistant (RNA).

These guidelines:

- Identify related competencies with respect to medication administration.
- Clarify what are reasonable expectations of the RNA role regarding medication administration.
- Provide useful information to the nursing care team to support RNA medication administration.
- Create a collaborative working relationship between members of the nursing care team through the implementation of these guidelines.

Guidelines

1. The RNA administers medication in the patient care setting as directed by, and under the supervision of an RN or physician.
2. The RNA administers medications via routes as per individual RNA competency.
3. The RNA administers medications prescribed with a range dose in consultation with the RN.
4. The RNA administers PRN medications based on the patient's care needs as ordered.

5. The RNA administers stat medication as directed by, and under the supervision of, the RN, NP or physician.
6. The RNA administers narcotics and other controlled substances in accordance with medication administration standards, organizational policy and legislation.
7. The RNA may administer immunizations to adults in practice settings with the appropriate supervision and supports.
8. The RNA may not administer a medication via the intravenous (push) route.
9. The RNA administers standing order medications in consultation with the RN.
10. The RNA supports client safety by reporting medication errors as per the organization policy and takes appropriate action to prevent medication errors.

Standards of Medication Administration

The guidelines in this document were developed with the assumption that any RNA practicing medication administration will meet the following standards:

1. Competent and safe medication administration shall be demonstrated at all times. This requires knowledge, skill, judgment and professionalism related to:
 - Integrating the principles for best practice of Medication Administration into personal nursing practice.
 - Assessing the appropriateness of the medication for the patient, knowledge of the drug actions, interactions, usual dose, route of administration and indications for use.
 - Preparing and administering medication as prescribed in a safe and accurate manner.
 - Monitoring and evaluating the patient's response to the medication.
 - Responding to and reporting adverse events appropriately.
 - Documenting appropriately.
2. Ethical medication administration shall be demonstrated at all times, evidenced by:

- The RNA involving the patient in care by assessing the patient's understanding of the medications and by administering medications that are prescribed and pertinent to the patient care plan. The RNA shows respect for the patient's choice to accept or refuse medications, while documenting as such, and reporting to the RN.
 - The RNA, as part of the nursing care team, participating in achieving a culture of patient safety.
3. Responsible and accountable medication administration shall be demonstrated at all times. The RNA is accountable to practice the seven rights of medication administration:
1. Right client
 2. Right time
 3. Right medication
 4. Right route
 5. Right dose
 6. Right reason
 7. Right documentation