B

CHS23 Carry out intravenous infusion

OVERVIEW

This standard covers setting up equipment and attaching prescribed intravenous fluids to exisiting intravenous cannulae. This procedure may be performed with adults or children and will usually take place in hospital with individuals receiving health care. It may also take place in a therapeutic, research or emergency situation.You will need a firm knowledge and understanding of this procedure based upon your employers protocols, guidelines and patient group directives, where used.You will be working without direct supervision but according to agreed protocols.Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.Version No 1

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

You will need to know and understand:

1. The current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to carrying out intravenour infusion
2. Your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical/Corporate Governance
3. The duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer
4. The importance of applying standard precautions to carrying out intravenous infusion and the potential consequences of poor practice
5. The importance of working within your own sphere of competence when and seeking advice when faced with situations outside your sphere of competence
6. The significance of risks associated with the administration of intravenous fluids
7. Current evidence based practice related to the management of risks associated with the administration of intravenous fluids
8. The importance of maintaining strict asepsis when preparing, attaching and connecting intravenous fluids
9. The significance of risks associated with the administration of intravenous fluids
10. The anatomy and physiology of the circulatory system in relation to the administration of intravenous fluids
11. The importance of and the methods of regular cleaning and maintenance of the cannula site
12. The approved methods of checking the patency of inserted cannula
13. The clinical indications of infection in the cannula site and the actions you would take

if signs of infection are apparent
14. The procedures for preparing fluids for administration including drug additions
15. The possible adverse reactions to intravenous fluids and actions to be taken
16. Methods of calculating flow rate of intravenous infusion
17. Methods for controlling flow rate
18. Methods for attaching and setting infusion pumps
19. The types of intravenous fluids available and their characteristics, indications and contra-indications
20. The different types of administration sets available and the circumstances when each may be used
21. The potential hazards associated with intravenous infusion administration sets
22. The different types of infusion pumps available and the circumstances when they may be used
23. The uses and potential hazards associated with the use of infusion pumps
24. The importance of correctly recording your activities including intravenous infusion administration
25. The importance of keeping accurate and up to date records
26. The importance of immediately reporting any issues which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

You must be able to do the following:

1. apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control any other relevant health and safety measures
2. check the individual's identity and confirm the planned activity
3. give the individual relevant information, support and reassurance in a manner which is sensitive to their needs and concerns
4. gain valid consent to carry out the planned activity
5. confirm required intravenous fluid to be administered in accordance with agreed protocols
6. confirm intravenous fluid to be administered is within date and clear, and that all seals are intact
7. ensure the administration set is:
    1. connected to the fluid container in a way that ensures no contamination or leakage
    2. connected to the cannula in a manner which avoids contamination and leakage
    3. correctly primed
8. adjust the fluid administration rate according to the needs of the individual and the fluid being administered
9. record all processes accurately and legibly
10. inspect the cannulation site and lines at regular intervals according to agreed protocols and take appropriate action if required
11. monitor the individual's condition regularly and seek clinical advice and support from an appropriate member of the team when events or risks are beyond your level of competence

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This National Occupational Standard was developed by Skills for Health.This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments