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| Administration of Medication by Gastrostomy Tube | NO.  |
| Administration of Medication by Gastrostomy TubeMedications are administered as prescribed in accordance with standard nursing principles and practices only by staff qualified and authorized to do so.1. Crushing medications for administration through an enteral tube requires a physician’s order.
2. Prepare medications for one resident at a time.
3. Prepare one mediation at a time.
4. Medications are administered at the time they are prepared.
5. Administer each medication separately and flush the tubing between each medication.
	1. Flush with 10 – 15 ml of water after each individual medication.
	2. For a resident who requires fluid regulation, the physician’s order should include the amount of water to be used for the flushing and administration of medications.
	3. Finely crush medications only in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations
	4. Enteric coated medications and long acting medication formulations should not be administered through an enteral tube.
	5. Consult the prescriber and pharmacist for alternative formulations and doses.
6. Do not touch medications with ungloved hands when opening a bottle or unit dose package.
7. Use an oral dose syringe for measuring small and/or fractioned volumes.
8. Verify medication name and dose are correct.
9. Inspect medication for expiration date, contamination, particulate matter, discoloration or defect.
10. Wash hands and don gloves following the Facility’s infection control policies.
11. Resident is identified before medications are administered and procedure is explained to the resident.
12. If enteral feedings are being administered at the time of mediation administration, stop the feeding by clamping the administration tube.
13. Flush with 15 – 30 ml water
14. Check the placement of the naso-gastric or gastrostomy tube in accordance with facility policy
	1. Place resident in proper position with head of bed elevated to 45 degrees
	2. Insert a small amount of air into the tube with a syringe and listen with stethoscope for placement.
	3. Clean stethoscope with alcohol before and after use.
15. Insert medication syringe in appropriate port. Remix medication and pour into medication syringe so entire dose is administered. Allow medications to flow down the mediation syringe via gravity. Do not push medications through a tube. Flush after each dose with 5 – 10 ml water.
	1. Use gentle boosts with plunger, if necessary.
16. Flush with 15 – 30 ml warm water after the final dose is administered.
17. Restart the enteral feeding as ordered.
18. Clean medication syringe and return to bedside.
19. Wash hands.
20. Record medications administered.
21. Adjust head of bed.
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