**POLICY: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY INJECTION**

PURPOSE:

Medications are given parenterally by either the subcutaneous or intramuscular route, depending upon the action of the drug desired and the rate of absorption.

EQUIPMENT:

1. Sterile syringe and needle – dependent in size on volume and type of solution ordered.
2. Alcohol wipes.
3. Ordered medication.

PROCEDURE: 10 min. 0.167 hr.

1. Obtain medication record needed for medication.
2. Check medication record with doctor’s orders.
3. Assemble needed equipment.
4. Wash hands.
5. Remove plastic tip from sterile syringe and attach needle or use disposable syringe with needle attached.

For solution in bottle:

* 1. Remove alcohol swab.
  2. Cleanse rubber stopper of medication vial with alcohol swab.
  3. Remove cover from needle. Pull air into syringe to equal volume of medication.
  4. Invert bottle. Insert needle. Inject air equal to amount of medication ordered and withdraw exact amount. Withdraw needle.

For solution in ampule:

* 1. Shake or lightly tap ampule to force all solution out of tip.
  2. If necessary, file ampule, break off tip.
  3. Insert needle into solution without touching the edges of ampule, draw up solution into syringe.

1. Insert needle with syringe attached into plastic needle container.
2. Carry medicine card/sheet, syringe, and alcohol sponge to bedside.
3. Identify patient and explain procedure.
4. Clean area for injection with alcohol swab – rubbing briskly. **POLICY: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION BY INJECTION**  cont.
5. Expel all air from syringe so solution reaches point of needle.
6. Insert needle quickly at angle of 45-60 degrees for hypodermic; 90 degrees for injection
7. Withdraw plunger slightly and if no blood appears in syringe, inject slowly. If blood is obtained, remove, change needle and choose another site and repeat procedure.
8. Remove needle. Massage part gently with alcohol swab to hasten absorption and prevent bleeding.
9. Bandaid may be applied.
10. Dispose of used needle and syringe in SHARPs container.