

**Guidance on the Administration of Medicines
BSc (Hons) Student Nurses whilst on Placement within NCIC NHS Trust**

Student Nurses should be encouraged to participate in the administration of medicines under the supervision of a Registered Nurse. This must be regarded as a learning opportunity.

There are some procedures related to the administration of medicines that students may **observe** and **discuss ONLY**, with the intention that they learn how to calculate medication dosage and learn the process of administration.

During the whole course MUST NOT

Administer I.V. medications as a bolus via a peripheral access device (can do as 3rd Yr. if they completed IV National passport and under direct supervision of 2 registered professionals).

Administer I.V. medications as a bolus via a peripheral access device central access device.

Administer I.V. medications via any infusion device (syringe pumps and volumetric pumps) (setting up and changing dosage). (3rd Yr. can do under direct supervision if completed Competency training and IV National passport).

Set up Patient Controlled Analgesia I.V. Infusions (PCA) and administer a bolus through the device. (3rd Yr. can do under direct supervision if completed Competency training and IV National passport).

Flushing of IV infusion lines and peripheral access devices. (3rd Yrs. can complete using prefilled syringes as part of NCIC Cannulation policy under direct supervision if completed Competency training and IV National passport).

Check and administer subcutaneous medication via a syringe driver.

Administration of cytotoxic medicines.

Administering and commencing Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN).

High risk injectables – see Local NHS Trust Policy i.e., IV insulin.

Palliative care medication – review the NCIC policy

Insulin injections – Can administer if using a Insulin pen – cannot draw up a dose of Actrapid.

Administration of Drugs administered via a Patient Group Direction (PGD).

Except where prohibited above and in conjunction with **Trust /Local Policy and if the student's Practise Assessor/Supervisor considers the student can safely practise under direct supervision by RN, the student can:**

In Year 1

Check and administer oral medication, nebulisers, inhalers, per vagina, topical medication via PEG tube (Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy).

Medication via nasogastric tube or rectum is **NOT** allowed.

Check and administer injections - Subcutaneous and Intramuscular.

Sign the prescription charts on the above. It is the registered nurse who remains ultimately responsible, and the student's signature must be countersigned by the registered nurse.

In Years 2

Check and administer subcutaneous fluids as a 3rd checker.

Check and assist in the setting up of I.V Fluids as the 3rd checker but the student must not attach to the patient.

Check and help set up infusion pumps for I.V. fluids (but must not attach to patient or commence).

Assist and observe the setting up of blood products must not attach to the patient (refer to National Policy). Pre and post commencement of transfusion vital signs must be counter signed by RN.

Sign the prescription charts of above with the exception of blood products. It is the registered nurse who remains ultimately responsible and the students signature must be countersigned by the registered nurse.

In Year 3 ONLY

Check and administer controlled drugs may act as a second checker provided, they are witnessed by a fully registered nurse and completed a Competency Assessment as a second checker. They must be registered in the ward CD log record.

Check and assist in the setting up a I.V. fluid and attach to patient if completing appropriate training and acting as a 3rd checker.

Check and help set up infusion pumps for I.V. fluids, can attach to patient and commence if completed appropriate training and acting as a 3rd checker.

Check and administer subcutaneous fluids can attach if completed training and acting as a 3rd checker.

Mixing and preparation of medication of I.V. bolus administration (I.e., antibiotic powder) can be administered under the supervision of 2 registered professionals and medications in line with local policy.

Under direct supervision and where the Practice Assessor / Supervisor deems the student to be at an appropriate knowledgeable level the student may participate in the checking and preparation of I.V. medications by the following methods in Trust policy allows:

Addition of medication to I.V. fluid bags / syringes of fluid in line with Medication policy i.e., review High risk medications.

Preparation of I.V. medications to be administered via a syringe pump or volumetric device.