

## CHAPTER 9

### Drug Administration

NDEG 26 A - Pharmacology 1  
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### Preparing for Drug Administration

- Check the “5 rights”
- Standard Precautions: **Wash your hands!**
- Double-check if unsure about anything
- Check for drug allergies
- Prepare drugs for one patient at a time
- Check three times

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### Preparing for Drug Administration (cont'd)

- Check expiration dates
- Check the patient’s identification
- Give medications on time
- Explain medications to the patient
- Open the medications at the bedside
- Document the medications given before going to the next patient

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## Enteral Drugs

- Giving oral medications
- Giving sublingual or buccal medications
- Liquid medications
- Giving oral medications to infants
- Administering drugs through a nasogastric or gastrostomy tube
- Rectal administration

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## Parenteral Drugs

- Never recap a used needle!
- May recap an unused needle with the “scoop method”
- Prevention of needlesticks
- Filter needles

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## Parenteral Drugs (cont'd)

- Removing medications from ampules
- Removing medications from vials
- Disposal of used needles and syringes

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## Injections

- Needle angles for various injections
  - Intramuscular (IM)
  - Subcutaneous (SC or SQ)
  - Intradermal (ID)
- Z-track method for IM injections
- Air-lock technique

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## Injection Techniques

- Intradermal injections
- Subcutaneous injections
  - Insulin administration
  - Heparin administration

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## Injection Techniques (cont'd)

- Intramuscular injections
  - Ventrogluteal site (preferred)
  - Vastus lateralis site
  - Dorsogluteal site
  - Deltoid site

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## Preparing Intravenous Medications

- Needleless systems
- Compatibility issues
- Expiration dates
- Mixing intravenous piggyback (IVPB) medications
- Labeling intravenous (IV) infusion bags when adding medications

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## Intravenous Medications

- Adding medications to a primary infusion bag
- IVPB medications (secondary line)
- IV push medications (bolus)
  - Through an IV lock
  - Through an existing IV infusion

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## Intravenous Medications (cont'd)

- Volume-controlled administration set
- Using electronic infusion pumps
- Patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) pumps

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## Topical Drugs

- Eye medications
  - Drops
  - Ointments
- Ear drops
  - Adults
  - Infant or child younger than 3 years of age

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## Topical Drugs (cont'd)

- Nasal drugs
  - Drops
  - Spray
- Inhaled drugs
  - Metered-dose inhalers
  - Small-volume nebulizers

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## Topical Drugs (cont'd)

- Administering medications to the skin
  - Lotions, creams, ointments, powders
  - Transdermal patches
- Vaginal medications
  - Creams, foams, gels
  - Suppositories

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