

F-210 Adverse Drug Reaction Procedure

Purpose

Identify and respond to signs and symptoms of adverse drug reaction.

Applies To

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses

Other (*Identify*): _____

Equipment/Supplies

Must have physician orders for the drugs to use and the protocol to follow. These orders must be client specific.

Anaphylaxis kit that includes:

250ml bag 0.9 sodium chloride	1 Inch tape
Alcohol swa	18g Butterfly infusion set
IV start kit	20g needles
Benadryl 50 mg/ml vial	Solu-cortef 100 mg syringe
1ml Heparin (100u/ml)	Airway and mask
Betadine swab	Sterile gloves
IV solution set	Syringes
Oral Tylenol tablets	Epinephrine 0.5 mg syringes
30ml vial bacteriostatic saline	Thermometer

Definition

Adverse Drug Reaction: Signs and symptoms are not directly associated with the medication but occur after administration of a medication.

Reactions may be mild to severe (life threatening).

Prior to Drug Administration:

Be aware of all drugs client is currently taking and of potential side effects.

Review allergy history.

Obtain anaphylaxis protocol orders and parameters for responding to adverse reactions from the physician.

Obtain baseline vital signs and record mental status.

Procedure

Note: It is important to follow physician parameters and orders when responding to a suspected adverse drug reaction.

1. Observe for signs and symptoms of adverse reaction.
 - a. **Central Nervous System:** headache, tremors, dizziness, muscle spasms, confusion.
 - b. **Gastrointestinal:** nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, cramps, abdominal pain.
 - c. **Skin:** rash, flushing, swelling of eyelids and lips, erythema, urticaria.
 - d. **Cardiovascular:** dizziness, hypotension, arrhythmia, tachycardia, bradycardia.
 - e. **Respiratory:** shortness of breath, wheezing, stridor, dyspnea on exertion, respiratory depression.
2. Report signs and symptoms to physician.
3. Discontinue drug administration.
4. Institute treatment/emergency measures as directed by physician or per protocol.
5. Maintain airway, support breathing, and circulation.
6. Activate emergency medical system as needed.

Documentation Guidelines

Document in the clinical record:

1. Date, time, and nature of onset of symptoms.
2. Time of onset in relation to medication administration.
3. Emergency actions taken and the client's response.
4. To whom and under what conditions responsibility for the client was transferred to others (i.e. rescue squad/hospital staff).
5. Allergy/adverse reaction.
6. Complete adverse drug reaction/incident report form.
7. Notify pharmacy within 24 hours of reaction.
8. Inform client of reaction/suspected allergy and instruct on avoidance of specific medication.
9. Note allergy on medication profile - flag clinical chart.

Related Procedures

None.

Policy History

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