

Nurses International**Clinical Skills****Name of the procedure/Rubric/ Rationale: Administering Medication via Nasogastric Tube**

Step	Procedure	Yes	No	Remarks
1.	Check and verify the doctor's orders for nasogastric (NG) medications with the client's medication administration record (MAR) and check client's history of allergy			
2.	Perform hand hygiene and collect prescribed medication from the medication cart.			
3.	For each prescribed medication perform the first check with MAR. Check the following for each medication : <input type="checkbox"/> The right client <input type="checkbox"/> The right medication (drug) <input type="checkbox"/> The right dose <input type="checkbox"/> The right route <input type="checkbox"/> The right time <input type="checkbox"/> The right reason <input type="checkbox"/> The right documentation			
4.	Also for each medication check the following: <input type="checkbox"/> Name of the medication <input type="checkbox"/> Dose <input type="checkbox"/> Route <input type="checkbox"/> When the medication is taken out <input type="checkbox"/> When the medication is at the bedside <input type="checkbox"/> Expiry date and opened date			
6.	Check the medication again with MAR before transferring them to the client's bedside.			
5.	Gather other supplies: <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding 60 mL syringe (Toomey syringe) <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding cup <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking water <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine crusher <input type="checkbox"/> Towel <input type="checkbox"/> Stethoscope <input type="checkbox"/> Clean gloves			
6.	Greet and identify the client using two identifiers (name and date of birth). Explain the procedure to the client. Allow client to ask questions regarding medication and obtain consent			
7.	Perform hand hygiene			

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8.	Establish privacy for the client			
9.	Adjust the height of the bed to a working height, lower the side rail on your side (if raised), and raise the head of bed to fowler position.			
10.	Check the allergy band or ask if the client has any history of drug allergies (if the client is conscious and has no trouble speaking). If yes, assess the type and severity of allergies			
11.				
12.	Check the NG tube for the correct placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wear clean gloves● Place stethoscope on the client's stomach● Prepare 10 cc of air in a toommey syringe● Push 10 cc of air into the NG tube● Listen for gurgle sounds● Leave the syringe on the NG tube and aspirate the gastric content.● Look for stomach fluid in the syringe, even a few drops show that the end of the tube is correctly in the stomach			
13.	Perform the last check of 3 checks and 7 rights of safe medication administration by verifying each medication with clients' MAR. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Place all the medication in one cup after checking each medication with the MAR<input type="checkbox"/> Place the medication in a separate cup if it requires pre-assessment			
14.	Medication Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Place a clean towel on the client's chest (prevents soiling and any spillage)<input type="checkbox"/> Pour the medication into the cup or crush the medicine if it is in tablet form and dilute it in 15-30 ml of water<input type="checkbox"/> Remove the plunger from the 60 cc syringe and attach the tip of the syringe to the gastric tube<input type="checkbox"/> Flush the tube with 30 ccs of water<input type="checkbox"/> Pinch the gastric tube and pour the diluted medication into the syringe			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Release the pinch and allow the solution to drain slowly. (if the fluid does not pass, do not force instead gentle pressure may be applied by inserting plunger) <input type="checkbox"/> Flush the tube with 10 ml of water <input type="checkbox"/> Repeat the same steps for other medications (it prevents the interaction of medications) <input type="checkbox"/> Flush the tube with 30 mls of water once the last medication has been administered (prevents the blocking of the tube) <input type="checkbox"/> Keep the client in fowler's position for least 30 minutes (prevents aspiration) 			
15.	<p>Post-medication safety check</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Perform assessment if needed <input type="checkbox"/> Stay with the client until all medication is swallowed <input type="checkbox"/> Document if any adverse reactions are observed <input type="checkbox"/> Do not sign the medication as given until the medication drains through the tube. 			
16.	<p>After Medication Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Remove the towel from the client's chest <input type="checkbox"/> Discard the other waste and supplies as per the hospital's policy <input type="checkbox"/> Remove and discard gloves and perform hand hygiene 			
17.	<p>Ensure the client's safety and comfort:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Return the client to his/her comfortable position <input type="checkbox"/> Fix the head of the bed as per the client's comfort <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure the bed is low and locked <input type="checkbox"/> Assess to determine need for side rails <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure call bell is within clients' reach <input type="checkbox"/> Ask if the client needs any other assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Perform hand hygiene. 			
18.	<p>Document as per agency policy, making sure to include the date, time, and the route of medication administration on the file</p>			
19.	<p>Evaluate the client's response to the medication within an appropriate time frame.</p>			

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Note:

If the client presents with any adverse effects:

- Withhold further doses.
- Assess vital signs.
- Notify prescriber.
- Notify pharmacy

Reference:

Doyle. G. R., McCutcheon. J. A. (2015). Clinical Procedures for Safer Patient Care: Administering Medications by Mouth and Gastric Tube (CH. 6.3). Victoria, BC: BCcampus. Retrieved on 28th of December, 2020 from <https://opentextbc.ca/clinicalskills/>