



COLLEGE OF NURSES
OF ONTARIO
ORDRE DES INFIRMIÈRES
ET INFIRMIERS DE L'ONTARIO



The College of Nurses of Ontario presents the Medication Learning Module:
Implementation and Evaluation.

Implementation and evaluation

What are the expectations and accountabilities for nurses?



This chapter outlines the expectations and accountabilities for nurses regarding implementation and evaluation in the medication administration process.

Links to College practice documents and other resources, including related websites, referred to in this chapter can be found on the home page of the learning module.

Standard statement

Implementation

Nurses prepare and administer medications to clients in a safe, effective and ethical manner.

3) Implementation

Nurses prepare and administer medication(s) to clients in a safe, effective and ethical manner.



The standard statement for implementation states:

Nurses prepare and administer medications to clients in a safe, effective and ethical manner.

Information and consent

Nurse ensures:

- client understands the information
- informed consent has been obtained



The first step in the implementation process is to ensure that the client has been provided with information about the treatment plan and the medication they are taking. Information should include the rationale for the medication, how and when the client should take it, the expected therapeutic effects and common side effects.

You also need to ensure that informed consent has been obtained, either from the client or his or her substitute decision-maker. When a client gives informed consent, it means she understands: the nature of the treatment; the expected benefits of the treatment; the material risks and side effects of the treatment; any alternative courses of action; and the likely consequences of not having the treatment.

For more information about consent, review the College's *Consent* practice guideline.

Preparing and administering medication

Nurses must:

- use evidence-informed rationale
- assess and select appropriate site for administration
- use an aseptic technique for preparation, administration and disposal of equipment



Implementation also includes the expectation that nurses prepare and administer medication using evidence-informed rationale. For example, you receive an order that involves mixing two types of insulin. You question whether this is appropriate and look for recent research to support this practice. Your search finds that it is acceptable and you can prepare and administer the medication as ordered.

You must also be able to assess and select the appropriate site for the administration, and use an aseptic technique in the preparation and administration of medication and the disposal of the equipment.

Eight rights

Nurses must verify:

- right client
- right medication
- right reason
- right dose
- right frequency
- right route
- right site
- right time



During preparation and administration of medication, a nurse verifies that it is the:

- right client
- right medication
- right reason
- right dose
- right frequency
- right route
- right site
- right time

This minimizes the chance of medication errors.

There are several ways you can identify clients. For example: you can check their identification band, you can ask the client what his or her name is, you can ask another staff member who is familiar with the client to verify the client's identity, and you can use photo identification, where applicable.

Monitoring and documenting

- Ensure appropriate monitoring
- Document:
 - workplace policies
 - *Documentation, Revised 2008*



While administering medication, nurses should ensure there is appropriate monitoring of the client during and after the administration. If you administer a medication and the client has an adverse reaction, you are required to assess the situation and intervene accordingly.

If you prepare and administer the medication, you should document as appropriate for the medication administered. The type of documentation will vary according to your practice setting and your workplace policies. For more information, review the College's *Documentation, Revised 2008* practice document.

Standard statement

Evaluation

Nurses evaluate client outcomes following medication administration and take appropriate steps for follow-up.

4) Evaluation

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The standard statement for evaluation states:

Nurses evaluate client outcomes following medication administration and take appropriate steps for follow-up.

Evaluate

- Effectiveness
- Side effects
- Adverse reactions

If concerned, follow up with prescriber.



During this part of the process, you must evaluate the client's response following the medication administration. This includes evaluating the: effectiveness of the medication, and any side effects, adverse reactions and/or drug interactions. If you have concerns or questions about the medication, you must follow-up with the prescriber.

For example, your client is receiving pain medication, but when you assess the client's pain, you determine the medication is not effective. You should contact the prescriber and advocate for either a different administration schedule of the current medication or for a medication that would provide more effective pain relief to the client. You would then document the process.

Medication learning module

You have now completed this chapter.

The screenshot displays the website for the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). The page is titled "Medication" and is part of a learning module. The header includes the CNO logo, navigation links (Home, What's New, How We Protect the Public, Become a Nurse in Ontario, Learn About the Standards & Guidelines, Maintain Your Membership), and a search bar. The main content area is divided into sections: "College Documents Magazines & Newsletters", "Educational Tools" (with sub-links for Abuse Prevention, Ask Practice, Learning Modules, Teleconferences, Practice Consultations, Practice Planning, Nursing Links, Nurse Practitioners, Outreach, and Volunteer Opportunities), "Medication" (introduction and objectives), "OBJECTIVES" (three numbered points), "FEEDBACK" (a link to provide feedback), "CHAPTERS" (a list of chapters with expandable icons), and "ONLINE PARTICIPATION FORM" (a link to track website usage).

You have now completed this chapter. To continue the learning module, close this presentation, return to the Learning Centre and select the chapter of your choice.

If you have a question for a Practice Consultant, click on the link in the upper right-hand corner.