



Skills Modules 3.0 Checklist: Injectable Medication Administration

Administering Intramuscular Medications

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the following checklist to evaluate competency in completing this skill. Select Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) for each step and provide comments as needed.

*Document the relevant information (assessment findings, pharmacological and nonpharmacological interventions) in the client's medical record.

Step by Step

STEP	S	U	EVALUATOR'S COMMENTS
*Verify prescription for medication. Verify client's name, medication name, dose and route. Verify correct time for medication.			
*Confirm safe dosage range, adverse effects, and contraindications.			
*Assess client's history of allergies.			
Gather supplies, including correct needle and syringe.			
*Perform hand hygiene.			
*Introduce yourself to the client.			
*Provide privacy as needed.			

STEP	S	U	EVALUATOR'S COMMENTS
*Verify client identification using at least two client identifiers.			
Ask the client if they have any allergies.			
*Provide client education about the medication.			
Verify medication order, medication name, and expiration date on medication.			
Scan client and medication (if barcode system available).			
*Draw up the correct amount of medication.			
Don clean gloves.			
Select an administration site using the appropriate landmarks.			
Assist the client to a comfortable position.			
Assess the selected site for tenderness of other abnormalities.			
Cleanse the skin with an antimicrobial agent and allow the skin to dry.			

STEP	S	U	EVALUATOR'S COMMENTS
Remove needle cap.			
Using the Z-track method (optional)			
- Displace the skin by pulling the skin and underlying tissue over about 1 inch with the nondominant hand. - Only let go of skin once injection has been given and needle has been removed.			
Traditional method: Pull the skin taut with the forefinger and thumb on the nondominant hand			
Using a dart-like movement, administer the injection at a 90-degree angle.			
Stabilize the syringe using the thumb and forefinger of the nondominant hand.			
Use the thumb and index finger of the dominant hand to press the plunger and slowly inject the medication.			
Steadily withdraw the needle at the same angle it was inserted at.			
Immediately deploy the needle safety device.			
Apply light pressure, if needed, and apply a bandage over the injection site.			
Ensure that the client is in a comfortable position.			

STEP	S	U	EVALUATOR'S COMMENTS
Discard the needle and syringe in the appropriate receptacle.			
Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.			
*Ensure that the client is safe prior to leaving the room.			

References

- Lynn, P. (2019). *Skill checklist for Taylor's clinical nursing skills* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer. p. 76-78.
- Lynn, P. (2019). *Taylor's clinical nursing skills* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer. pp. 220-228.
- Potter, P. A., Perry, A. G., Stockert, P., & Hall, A. (2017). *Fundamentals of nursing* (9th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. pp. 670-675.