

IREDELL HEALTH SYSTEM

| Pre-Operative Medications | |
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| Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee P&T Committee | Date: 09/2022 Date: 10/2022 |

Purpose: To establish a procedure to assure that all pre-operative medications are given as ordered.

Standard: Patients will receive pre-operative medications as ordered by their provider.

Policy: All pre-operative medications will be given in the Operating/Holding Room or Outpatient Surgery unless specific orders are written to administer pre-operative medications at a specific time or on the nursing unit. This includes medications specifically ordered to be administered in the holding room as well as pre-operative orders for medications to be administered “on call”, “in the AM before surgery”, “on call to the OR”, “one hour pre-op”, or other such order. Pre-operative antibiotics will be given within one hour prior to surgical incision, except for those that may require a longer infusion time (Vancomycin, Levaquin, Cipro) which will be administered within two hours prior to surgical incision.

Procedure:

- A. When an order is placed for a pre-operative medication or blood product, the nursing unit or outpatient surgery staff will indicate this order on the Nursing Unit Pre-operative Checklist or Outpatient Surgery Checklist. The name of the medication(s)/blood products will be indicated on the checklist by:
 1. Checking the appropriate box if Vancomycin and/or Levaquin have been ordered.
 2. Listing the name of any holding room medications/blood products in the “Pre-operative Medications” section
- B. Pre-operative medication orders will also be processed by pharmacy and recorded on the electronic medication administration record.
 1. When Vancomycin is ordered pre-operatively, pharmacy shall automatically change dose to 1 gram for adult patients weighing less than 80 kilograms and 1.5 kilograms for patients weighing greater then or equal to 80 kg.
 2. When cefazolin is ordered pre-operatively, pharmacy shall automatically change dose to 2 grams for adult patients weighing less than 120 kilograms and 3 grams for patients weighing greater than or equal to 120 kilograms.
 3. Doses shall not be automatically adjusted for pediatric patients and/or if provider has specifically indicated to administer as written.
- C. All pre-operative medications will be entered onto the patient’s electronic medication profile as “On-Call” medications unless specific orders are written to administer pre-operative medications at a specific time or on the nursing unit.
- D. For Patients Going Through Outpatient Surgery:
 1. The Outpatient Surgery nurse will review the Outpatient Surgery Checklist for any marked pre-operative medication orders. The pre-operative orders will also be reviewed and any medication orders will be verified against the medication record.

2. For pre-operative antibiotics, the Holding Room nurse or Outpatient Surgery Nurse will:
 - a. Obtain the pre-mixed antibiotic from the pharmacy or medication dispensing cabinet.
 - b. Attach IV tubing to the antibiotic and hang the antibiotic on an IV pole at the patient's bedside. Do not initiate infusion at this time.
 - c. When notified by the OR Circulator, initiate infusion of those antibiotics which must be infused over 1-2 hours.
- F. For Patients Going Through the Holding Room:
1. The holding room nurse will print a list of all inpatients with on-call medication orders coming for surgery.
 2. IV antibiotics that require 1-2 hours for infusion will need to be evaluated individually.
 - a. Antibiotics for first case starts will be started to allow infusion before scheduled surgery time.
 - b. Antibiotics for a surgeon's subsequent cases will need to be evaluated by the circulating RN in the surgeon's current room. Discussion regarding appropriate start time will be needed to give the best window of time to start the antibiotic.
- NOTE: The antibiotic must be started no more than two hours prior to incision.
- c. When the patient arrives in the Holding Room, the Holding Room nurse will review pre-operative Checklist/OPS Checklist for a marked pre-operative medication order. The pre-operative orders in the chart will also be reviewed and any medication orders will be verified.
 - d. Taking into consideration the anticipated surgery start time, the type of surgical procedure, and the anticipated holding room time, the Circulating nurse will notify the Holding Room nurse that a pre-operative medication needs to be administered.
 - e. The antibiotic(s) will be started at the specified time by the Holding Room nurse.
3. For all other pre-operative medications, when the patient arrives in the Holding Room, the holding room nurse will review the Nursing Unit Pre-operative Checklist/OPS Checklist for a marked pre-operative medication order. The pre-operative orders in the chart will also be reviewed and any medication orders will be verified against the medication record.
 4. For all pre-operative medications, except antibiotics, after verifying the order, the Holding Room nurse or Outpatient Surgery Nurse will administer the medication as ordered.
 5. Antibiotics requiring less than one hour for infusion, will be initiated by the CRNA en route to the OR.
- G. The individual administering any pre-operative medication must follow medication administration guidelines.

- H. Prior to induction, the Anesthetist and OR nurse will review the Nursing Unit Pre-operative Checklist / Outpatient Surgery Checklist for any pre-operative medication order and verify that pre-operative medications were administered as ordered. If a medication has not been administered as ordered, the medication will be administered at that time by the CRNA.

NOTE:

1. For patients, such as pediatrics or critically ill patients, who bypass the holding room and go directly to the OR Suite, the OR nurse and the CRNA are responsible for reviewing the pre-operative orders and the pre-operative checklists for pre-operative medication orders. Any medications, which have not been administered, will be administered and documented on the MEDICATION RECORD by the CRNA.
2. For same-day “add-on” inpatient cases:
 - a. The individual who receives the request to add the case to the OR schedule will be responsible for asking if the patient has an order for pre-operative antibiotics requiring 1-2 hours for infusion.
 - b. If such a medication is ordered, the individual scheduling the case will notify the Charge nurse, so antibiotic timing can be determined.

Please Note: This policy applies to OR orders only, and does not apply to “on-call” orders for Endoscopy, Cardiac Cath, or other areas.

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/2003

DATES REVISIONS EFFECTIVE: 04/2007, 01/2021, 10/2022

DATES REVIEWED (no changes): 02/2014

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