

Review **Basic Safety and Infection Prevention**, including

- Full minute apical pulse before administering digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- Handwashing before and after wearing gloves, and also before giving medications to each resident.
- Handwashing instead of disinfecting gel when patient is suspected of having Clostridium difficile (C. diff) infection.
- 5 Rights of medication administration: correct patient, medication, time, dose, route
- Patient identifiers, name and birthdate in addition to photo in MAR
- Verifying medication label with the MAR X3

Review **procedures**, including

- Taking BP, apply cuff to bare skin
- Eye drops, pull lower lid and drop medication into area behind lashes
- Positioning for oral medications, assist resident to sitting position
- Rectal suppository, insert approximately 1 inch (2.5 cm) in order to pass the internal sphincter
- Transdermal patch, placement in upper back
- Patient refuses medications at this time, return 15 minutes later

Review **adverse reactions** to medications, including

- Check BP before administering a BP medication, hold if BP much lower than usual
- Symptoms of low blood sugar: sweating, irritable, light-headedness.

Review use of **equipment** used to administer medications, including

- Reading amount on oral syringe
- Reading amount on insulin syringe
- Reading amount on medication cup

Review **dosage forms**, including

- Immediate-release can be crushed without affecting the action of the medication
- Sublingual, how the patient correctly uses: dissolve under the tongue
- Eye drops, pull lower lid and drop medication into area behind lashes

- Transdermal patch, placement in upper back

Review **abbreviations/terminology**, including

- BID
- Q3-4H PRN
- Stat

Review **units of measure**, including

- Ounces to mL
- Identify amount in an image of an oral syringe

Review **precautions** related to specific medications, including

- Full minute apical pulse before administering digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- Purpose for holding metformin (Glucophage®) when patient is NPO

Review **medication calculations**, including

- Ordered dose of oral liquid from 20 mg/mL

Review **documentation**, including

- Correcting an error in handwritten documentation: line through error, initial, document correct information
- Assuring that patient has taken medication before documenting

Review principles of **communication**, including

- Patient satisfaction, importance of communication
- If resident refuses medications at this time, tell the resident you will return later.
- Reporting to the nurse
  - New finding of slurred speech
  - Decreased BP in resident receiving BP medications

- Pain unrelieved with ordered medication
- Elevated BP outside limits for the resident
- Symptoms of hypoglycemia in a resident who has diabetes

Review the effects of **medications**, including

- Acetaminophen and hydrocodone (Norco®)
- Digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- Fentanyl patch
- Insulin (not regarding administration, only the effect of insulin)
- Metoprolol (Lopressor®)
- Morphine (Roxanol®)
- Nitroglycerin
- Ramipril (Altace®)