

ECH Meds routine in a nutshell:

Students will give scheduled and prn meds up until 12:30pm. All meds must be physically administered by 12:30pm. **No meds may be administered after 12:30pm (must return meds and report to nurse).**

RN will pull the meds out of Pyxis station a few minutes prior to time due. Students will put meds in ziplock bag, labeled with pt sticker and carry in hand until administered. Students will not carry meds more than a few minutes. Return meds to RN if not administered promptly.

Students ALWAYS need to check meds with a licensed nurse prior to administering meds of any kind or route!

Students will look up meds and do 2 checks of the 5 rights before asking instructor or RN to check meds for the 3rd and final time).

Remember to check for allergies! Must know WHY the patient is receiving each and every med.

Students will correlate labs to meds as appropriate, BEFORE the 3rd check. Be prepared to be "quizzed" on medications. It is OK to use a med book/ cards or the computer as a resource.

Students will not be allowed to administer a med if it has not been looked up and/or the student does not demonstrate appropriate knowledge of the drug, side effects, pertinent labs to review, rationale for administration, etc.

Students must use the computer at bedside to check patient armband and double-check med still ordered immediately prior to administering.

Once students have been given the "OK" by instructor, students can proceed (after doing 3rd check with a nurse) to give PO, eye/ear drops, transdermals, powders, sub-Q, SL flush etc. by themselves (i.e., do not need to be accompanied to pt. room by a nurse).

Students **ALWAYS** need to be accompanied into the room and directly observed by a licensed nurse when administering these routes of parenteral medications: IM, IVPB, central line flushes.

Students **ALWAYS** need to be accompanied into the room and directly observed **BY INSTRUCTOR** when administering IV Push meds.

Students must ALWAYS check the ID band (pt name and MR#) immediately prior to giving any med, EVERY TIME!

Students will chart own meds, including the name of the nurse with whom you checked the med. You initially may need assistance with this, please ask instructor or staff nurse.