



Six rights of medication administration

Check that the medication order is valid before proceeding.



1. Right patient

- Ensure patient's name, date of birth, and unique identification number are correct.
- Check if the patient has allergies or past adverse reactions to any medicines.



2. Right medication

- Check that the medication name, indication, and formulation matches the order.
- Be vigilant with look-alike and sound-alike medications.



3. Right dose

- Check the strength and dose of the medication matches the order.
- Check the dose is appropriate for the indication.
- When making up the dose, if more than 3, should it be?



4. Right time

- Ensure the administration time matches the order.
- Check if there are any time-critical medicines required.
- Ensure the specified time interval has passed before administering a when required (PRN) medication.



5. Right route

- Ensure the route and formulation is appropriate for the condition and indication.
- Check if the medication can be crushed or mixed with other substances.
- Check that old transdermal patches have been removed.



6. Right documentation

- Check and complete all medication charts before and after administration.
- Document any new or suspected allergies or adverse reactions to medicines.

Don't forget to perform independent double-checks when required.

Adapted from and with acknowledgements to Child and Adolescent Health Services