

Med Pass Overview

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Objectives

- ▶ Adapting habits for an efficient med pass
- ▶ Interpret "Rights" of medication administration
- ▶ Summary of med administration and documentation
- ▶ Managing medication and refills
- ▶ Discuss medication storage
- ▶ Describe meds and med pass errors
- ▶ List side effects of medications
- ▶ Discuss overprescribing anti-behavioral meds

Path to an Effective Med Pass

- ▶ Organize the cart
- ▶ Secure medications
- ▶ All necessary Supplies on the Cart
 - ▶ Medications restocked
 - ▶ Cups, spoons, hand sanitizer, pudding/jelly/applesauce, etc.
- ▶ Uninterrupted during pass

“Rights” of Medication Administration

- ▶ Right patient-photographs, wrist bands, etc.
- ▶ Right drug-generic to name brand reference
- ▶ Right dose
- ▶ Right route
- ▶ Right time
- ▶ Right documentation

Medication Administration

- ▶ Prepared, administered, and documented by **same** licensed healthcare personnel
- ▶ Check for drug allergies
- ▶ Triple check the label to MAR
 - ▶ 1st Check - when removing from cart
 - ▶ 2nd Check - when med punched/poured out
 - ▶ 3rd Check - when returning to cart
- ▶ Observe patient when medication is consumed
- ▶ PRN Medications
 - ▶ Only given after nurse evaluation
 - ▶ Only given for ordered indication
 - ▶ Pain, nausea, GI issues, chest pain, etc.

Narcotic Administration & Documentation

- ▶ Record dose on control sheet/perpetual inventory
- ▶ Initialed on EMAR
- ▶ PRN documentation completed
- ▶ Patches documented when removed and destroyed
- ▶ Witnessed documentation: 2 nurses or nurse/CMA
- ▶ Narcotic inventory during change of shifts

Time of Med Passes

- ▶ Per Facility Time Policy
 - ▶ One hour before and one hour after
 - ▶ Range administration time a.k.a. liberalized med pass
- ▶ Before vs. After Meals-ex: bisphosphonates, thyroid medications
- ▶ No Pre-Punching—truly doesn't seem to save any time
- ▶ No breaks or interruptions during med pass

Proper Documentation

- ▶ Punch, Initial, Give (P.I.G. Method) or Punch, Give, Initial - key is consistency
- ▶ Documenting refusals
 - ▶ Explanation entry on EMAR is needed
- ▶ PRN documentation
 - ▶ EMAR initialed
 - ▶ Name of Medication
 - ▶ Date/Time
 - ▶ Complaints/symptoms
 - ▶ Response
 - ▶ Signature/initials from medical personnel

Managing Medications

- ▶ Labeling
 - ▶ Prescription label matches exactly with MAR
 - ▶ OTC medications in original container with resident's full name (or per State guidelines)
 - ▶ Check for changes in directions and update
- ▶ Expiration date of medications
 - ▶ Short-dated medications—date when opened—ex: Insulin, Eye drops, Inhalers
 - ▶ Implement plan & procedure to monitor for expired medications routinely

Managing Medications Refills

- ▶ Contact pharmacy 3 - 5 days in advance
- ▶ Investigate if meds do not arrive at facility
 - ▶ Call pharmacy
 - ▶ Check electronic order program
 - ▶ Notify nurse in charge
- ▶ Come up with plan and resolve the issue

Discontinued Medications

- ▶ Only active meds in room/cart
- ▶ Remove discontinued and expired medications
- ▶ Medication reconciliation
- ▶ Documentation for destruction
 - ▶ Paperwork completed and medication secured in designated area
- ▶ Controlled medications secured for proper disposal under double lock

Medication Storage

- ▶ Med room/carts locked at all times
- ▶ Only licensed personnel should have access to room/keys
- ▶ Med carts are organized and free from clutter
- ▶ External vs. Internal
 - ▶ External - topical, otic, nasal products
 - ▶ Internal (stored in med cart) - ophthalmic, respiratory inhalers, meds in PLO gel, suppositories, nitroglycerin ointment/patches
- ▶ Refrigerated medications
 - ▶ Medications & medication adjuvants **ONLY!**
 - ▶ Temperature range (36 - 48°F)

Medication Errors

- ▶ Crushing or splitting a pill
 - ▶ Example: Extended-release tablets
- ▶ Inadequate intake of liquid
 - ▶ Example: Full glass of water with certain medications
- ▶ Inadequate water for reconstitution
 - ▶ Example: Too much or too little water
- ▶ Swallowing ODTs or SL tablets
- ▶ Not obtaining pre dose parameters (pulse, blood pressure, pain scale, etc.)

Medication Errors Continued

- ▶ Mix-up of patients and drugs
 - ▶ No Borrowing
 - ▶ Similar/Same Patient names (ex: Edward Jones)
- ▶ Giving expired medications
- ▶ Inaccurate dosing
- ▶ Missed dose
- ▶ Improper technique
- ▶ Improper storage (ex: refrigeration required stored at room temp)

Meds Most Commonly Missed

- ▶ New orders missed—Don't refer to EMAR but Pass by memory
- ▶ OTC meds—May be in a bottle in a different place on the cart
- ▶ Unique dosing regimens
 - ▶ Weekly patches
 - ▶ Weekly bisphosphonates
 - ▶ Warfarin
- ▶ Nasal sprays
- ▶ Eye drops & ear drops
- ▶ Inhalers
- ▶ Topicals

Common Side Effects of Antihypertensives

- ▶ Orthostatic hypotension
- ▶ Dry cough (ACE inhibitors)
- ▶ Dizziness
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Fatigue
- ▶ Electrolyte imbalances
- ▶ Rash/skin reactions
- ▶ Changes in heart rate
- ▶ Swelling

Common Side Effects of Analgesics

▶ NSAIDs

- ▶ GI issues, cardiovascular effects, kidney & liver damage, fluid retention, BP changes, bleeding

▶ Opioids

- ▶ Sedation, dizziness & drowsiness, constipation, respiratory depression, N&V, tolerance & dependence, confusion, mood changes

▶ Tylenol

- ▶ Liver damage, N&V, mild stomach discomfort, interactions with other meds, overdose

Common Side Effects of Antipsychotics

- ▶ Extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS)
 - ▶ Akathisia, dystonia, parkinsonism, tardive dyskinesia (TD)
- ▶ Sedation
- ▶ Orthostatic hypotension
- ▶ Weight gain
- ▶ Constipation
- ▶ Blurred vision
- ▶ Cognitive impairment

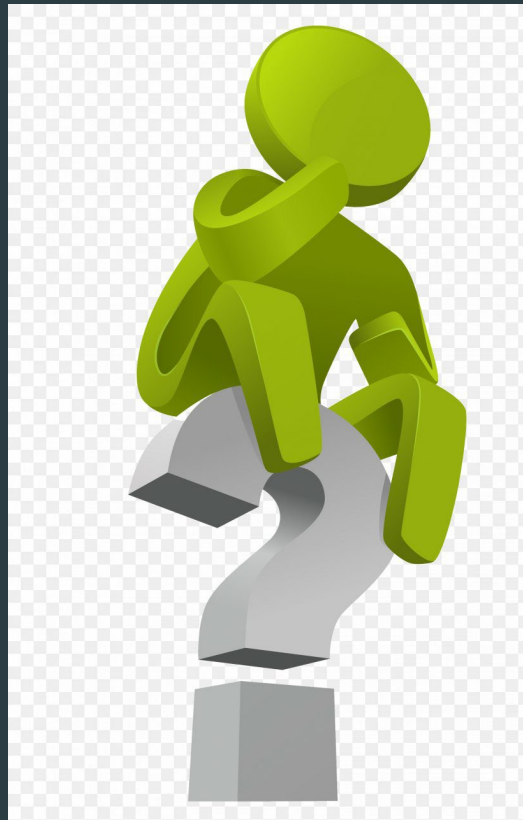
Overprescribing Meds for Behavior

- ▶ Overlooks non-pharmacological interventions
- ▶ Therapeutic duplications
- ▶ Masks underlying issues
- ▶ Gradual dose reductions
- ▶ Tolerance

Top Drugs Causing Fall Risks

- ▶ Benzodiazepines
- ▶ Opioids
- ▶ Blood Pressure Medications
- ▶ Diabetic Medications
- ▶ Anticholinergics
- ▶ Antidepressants (TCAs)
- ▶ Antipsychotics
- ▶ Anticonvulsants
- ▶ Sleep Meds (Ambien)

Questions???



References

- ▶ <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/GuidanceforLawsAndRegulations/Downloads/Appendix-PP-State-Operations-Manual.pdf>