

 <p><b>Connecticut Valley Hospital Nursing Policy and Procedure</b></p>	<p><b>SECTION F: MEDICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</b></p> <p><b>CHAPTER 23: MEDICATION MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p><b>POLICY AND PROCEDURE 23.17.8 Retractable Syringe Injection</b></p>
<p>Authorization: Nursing Executive Committee</p>	<p>Date Effective: May 1, 2018 Scope: Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses</p>

**Standard of Practice:**

The licensed nurse will competently administer parenteral medication.

**Standard of Care:**

The patient can expect the licensed nurse to be competent in the administration of medication by injection.

**Policy:**

The Retractable Syringe is used to administer medication by injection.  
Non-retractable, safety syringes can also be used to administer medication by injection.

**Procedure:**

1. Obtain Equipment
  - Retractable Syringe (select the appropriate size syringe and needle)
  - Alcohol Preps
  - 2 x 2 gauze or cotton ball
  - Gloves
  - Medication
2. Implementation
  - a. Perform hand hygiene.
  - b. Put on gloves.
  - c. Prepare the syringe with the medication using aseptic technique.
  - d. Select and prepare an appropriate site by cleansing it with an alcohol swab.
  - e. Allow the skin to dry.
  - f. Spread the tissue taut. (If administering in an arm, do not spread the tissue taut).
  - g. Hold the syringe and pierce the skin for subcutaneous (45-degree angle) or intramuscular (90-degree angle).
  - h. Steady the syringe and aspirate to observe for blood.
  - i. Administer the medication if no blood is apparent.
  - j. Continue depressing plunger past the point of resistance in order to activate the automatic retraction while the needle is still in the patient.

- k. Needle will automatically retract into syringe, preventing exposure to contaminated needle and rendering syringe non-reusable.
- l. Massage the injection site with an alcohol swab.
- m. Dispose of syringe in the sharps container.
- n. Perform hand hygiene.

**Manufacturer Reference:**

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***Precautions:***

- ◆ Single use only.
- ◆ Contents are sterile, non-toxic, and non-pyrogenic. Do not use if product or package is damaged.
- ◆ Contains no natural rubber latex.
- ◆ Use only with attached needle. Needle cannot be changed.
- ◆ Automated needle retraction occurs only when barrel is emptied and plunger is fully depressed.
- ◆ U.S. Federal Law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician.