

WHITING FORENSIC HOSPITAL
Nursing Policy and Procedure Manual

SECTION F: MEDICATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES
CHAPTER 23: MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

Policy and Procedure 23.17.8 RETRACTABLE SYRINGE INJECTION

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.

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.**