[Name of the Writer]

[Name of Instructor]

[Subject]

[Date]

**Safe Drug Administration**

Medication errors are some very common mistakes and such mistkes can brive the nurses to feel guilty and sometimes even worse. Before judging the nurses for their mistakes it must be kept in mind that these nurses are humans and also errors can happen. So in order to minimize these mistakes and alsot keep the patients safe the public health policy makers have set some safety measures which are there to ensure patients care and also safety. Medication errors are very common and these errors can occur while prescribing, documenting, dispensing, administering and also monitoring. This is a long chain to make the patients safe and through all these chains the nurse must step in to check that every responsible person starting from the doctor to the pharmacists are doing their jobs correctly. Most importantly the nurses must also make sure that they are also doing their job correctly. So in order to make the pateints safety a priority there are eight rights of medication administration (Hughes and Blegen). Which are as follow

1. Right Patient: In order to make sure that the nurse is treating the right patient by using the three national patient identifiers. Other thn that the nurse must ask the name and also date of birth of the patient.
2. Right Medication: in this case the nurse must make sure that the medication which is given is actually the one which was ordered.
3. Right Route: before giving the medicine to the patientit is important to note that whether the nurse is giving the medicine from the correct route.
4. Right Time: It is important to give the prescribed medications at the right time and also it must be madke sure that two dosages must not be stacked on one another.
5. Right Dose: right dosage is also very important. Too little or too high doasges can still create problems for the patients.
6. Right Documentation: medications used myust be documented properlywhich must include time, dosage and route of administration.
7. Right Reason: It is also th responsibility of the healthcare providers to make sure that the drugs are given to the patient for the right reason.
8. Right Resosne: Lastly it must be checked that the patient has the desired and rge correct response to the medicine used.

**Principles of Drug Administration:**

When a healthcare provider provides the patient a medication then it must be kept in mind that the soul purpose is to help the patient to improve their health. the healthcare provider must talk to the patient and also they must provide them all the basic and required information about the medication. It is the right of the patient to know about the name of the medine used, its purpose and also about any possible side effects to enhance the safety levels the nurse or the healthcar provider must no remember t wash their hands before and after the handling of the medicine. In case of any doubt the healthcare provider must not forget to ask questions . it is the responsibility of the nurse. It is the responsibility of the nurse to administer the right medications and any order of the medications that seem inappropriate must be questioned. At this point knowledge about the drug and also the patient’s health history becomes quite significant. If in any case the nurse or the healthcare provider makes a mistake then it is their responsibility to report that error to the authority so that the damage in that case is controlled (Laganá et al.).

The principles of basic maths are more important for nurses than any other when calculating the drug doses. Most of the time patients suffer various health problems because of the miscalculations of the required doses by the nurses. There are three many methods which are used fr the dosage calculation; dimensional anlysis, Ratio Proportion andFormula or Desired Over Have Method. The Desired Over Have or Formula method uses a formula in order to find out an unknown quantity somehow like ratio and proportion. In case of dosage calculation, conversion factors are used like the conversion from liters to milileters. These methods are simpler in nature so they are helpful for the clinicians to work with many units of measurements, factors conversion to solve many problems. These methods are also used to check the accuracy of other methods of calculations so it provides the opportunity to double check the answer. The formula method is used to to find an unknown quantity. This is a simple method and it is also helpful in working with various measurements at the same time, factors are converted to find the answer. The oother method which is the ratio and proportion method is around from so many years and they are quite helpfuk in drug calculationadditions and divisions are used to navigate through a ratio and proportion problem (Haigh).

Drug administration is the reposnisbility of the nurses and to make sure that these standards are met there are drug administration rights which are made to make sure that th correct drug is given to the correct patient in the correct amount. Even if the medicine is effective for a given health condition but if its not given in the correct amount and dose then it can be hazardous for the patient. So all these standards are set to avoid any such mishap. It is also the responsibility of the healthcare providers to abide with these standards in order to make the patients safety a priroty.

**References**

Haigh, Steve. “How to Calculate Drug Dosage Accurately: Advice for Nurses.” *Professional Nurse (London, England)*, vol. 18, no. 1, Sept. 2002, pp. 54–57.

Hughes, Ronda G., and Mary A. Blegen. “Medication Administration Safety.” *Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence-Based Handbook for Nurses*, edited by Ronda G. Hughes, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (US), 2008. *PubMed*, http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK2656/.

Laganá, M. T., et al. “[The general principles of drug administration and nursing actions].” *Revista Da Escola De Enfermagem Da U S P*, vol. 23, no. 1, Apr. 1989, pp. 3–16.