Monitoring of the Patient

What do you need to consider after administration?

Documentation

It is important that all medications given are recorded. The time of administration is important, and details of the medication and the dose given should be recorded. If a Medication Administration Record (MAR) is being used, it may be sufficient to initial in the appropriate box to demonstrate this.

You may need to include details regarding the administration, for example if an injection or patch has been given or applied the site should be recorded. This will help to ensure rotation of site, and also allow monitoring for localised side effects. You should initial all documentation yourself. Some high risk medications, including controlled drugs, should be countersigned by a colleague.

Monitoring for Adverse Effects

Be aware of potential side effects. These may happen immediately after administration, but may occur as a delayed effect.

Routine Monitoring associated with Specific Medications

Some medicines require routine blood tests. Have these been completed as recommended?

What would make a ‘good’ documentation?

Good

Complete as soon as possible

Concise

Factual

Avoid abbreviations

Full relevant information

Use relevant template if available

Bad

Use abbreviations

Include non-relevant information

Non-concise

If it isn’t recorded, it didn’t happen!

Complete the content above before moving on.

Yellow Card Reporting

The Yellow Card Scheme is vital in helping the MHRA monitor the safety of all healthcare products in the UK to ensure they are acceptably safe for patients and those that use them.

Reports can be made for all medicines including vaccines, blood factors and immunoglobulins, herbal medicines and homeopathic remedies, and all medical devices available on the UK market.

The Yellow Card Scheme collects information on suspected problems or incidents involving:

1. Side effects/adverse drug reactions
2. Medical device adverse incidents
3. Defective medicines
4. Counterfeit or fake medicines
5. Safety concerns for e-cigarettes or their refill containers

Side Effects

All medicines can cause side effects.

Side effects reported on Yellow Card are evaluated, together with additional sources of information, and assessed by a team of medical safety experts. If a new side effect is identified, the safety profile of the medicine is carefully looked at as well as the side effects of other medicines used to treat the same condition.

THE MHRA takes action whenever necessary to ensure that medicines are used in a way that minimises risk, whilst maximising patient benefit.

What to Report?

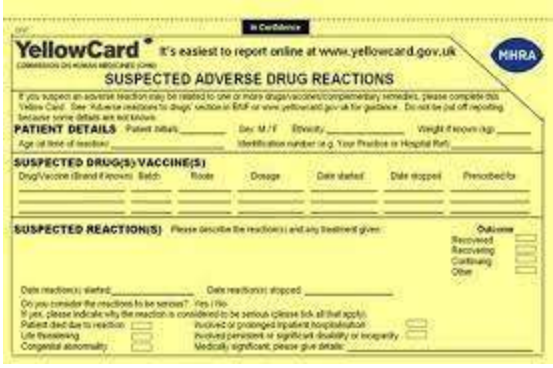
Medicines

For established medicines and vaccines you should report all serious suspected adverse drug reactions, even if the effect is well recognised.

Black Triangle Scheme

All new medicines and vaccines that are under additional monitoring have an inverted black triangle symbol (left) displayed in their PIL, SPC and BNF monograph. All suspected adverse drug reactions should be reported for these products.

Yellow Cards



Yellow cards can be found at the back of BNF, through the Yellow Card website or submitted via the Yellow Card App.

Transfer of Care

Health Care Professionals transferring a patient should ensure that all necessary information about the patient's medicines is accurately recorded and transferred with the patient, and that responsibility for on-going prescribing is clear.

A lot of potential errors and communication issues can occur at this point of a patient's care.

To support the delivery of high quality care, there is an increasing need to share information more efficiently and consistently across health and social care.

(NICE Guidelines; NHS Digital)

Errors and Adverse Events

What is an Adverse Event?

An adverse event is considered anything that has caused a loss of some kind; loss can include personal injury, reputation loss, financial loss or a negative impact on service use experience. Near misses are times when something has nearly happened, but didn't.

How do you report Adverse Events?

All adverse events, including errors and near misses should be reported on Ulysses. The link to this can be found at the Useful Shortcuts page on Sirona intranet. To access this system you will need to log-in using your Sirona log-in and password.

Why do we report Adverse Events?

The reporting of adverse events, including near misses, is really important to ensure that we can learn from what has gone wrong and prevent such incidents reoccurring.

Complete the content above before moving on.