



ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN

LOCAL OPERATING PROCEDURE

CLINICAL POLICIES, PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES

Approved by Quality & Patient Safety Committee
20/6/13

INTRAVENOUS CANNULA CARE IN POSTNATAL WARDS : NEONATE

1. OPTIMAL OUTCOMES

- Using an aseptic technique to assess patency and manage the neonate's intravenous cannula (IVC)
- Absence of infection at the cannulation site.

2. PATIENT

- Neonates

3. STAFF

- Registered Midwives
- Student Midwives
- Medical staff

4. EQUIPMENT

- Syringe
- 0.5ml 0.9% saline flush
- Alco wipes

5. CLINICAL PRACTICE

- Explain procedure to parents
- Swab connection point of cannula bung prior to use
- Inspect every four hours intravenous cannula site (IVC) for redness, swelling, pain or heat
- Report any of the above signs to paediatric medical officer. DO NOT use cannula until reviewed
- Record temperature respiration and heart rate every four hours
- Confirm patency every 6 hours and prior to intravenous (IV) medication by administration of 0.9% saline flush (1mL is normally prescribed)
- Record flush on the medication chart
- Administer IV antibiotics as per 'RHW Newborn Care Centre - IV Therapy and Drug Administration Protocol'

6. HAZARDS / SUB-OPTIMAL OUTCOMES

- Cannula related infection

7. DOCUMENTATION

- Neonatal clinical pathway
- Neonatal Medication Chart



INTRAVENOUS CANNULA CARE IN POSTNATAL WARDS : NEONATE cont'd

8. EDUCATIONAL NOTES

- Unlike adults IVC are not routinely resited after 72 hours because of the risk of infection
- Care of IVC will avoid multiple cannulation of the baby
- Adhering to infection control principles will minimise the risk of infection to both the cannulation site and the intravascular cannula

9. RELATED POLICIES / PROCEDURES / CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES

- RHW Newborn Care Centre - IV Therapy and Drug Administration Protocol
- Aseptic Technique

10. REFERENCES

- 1 The Joanna Briggs Institute (2008). Management of peripheral intravascular devices. *Best practice: Evidence based information sheets for health professionals* 12(5) pp1-4.
- 2 O'Grady, MP, Alexander, M. Dillinger, EP, Gerberdingal, JL, Heard, SO, Maki, DG et al (2002). Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. Centers for Disease control and prevention. MMWR. Recomm. REP 51(RR-10) 1-29

REVISION & APPROVAL HISTORY

Reviewed June 2013

Approved Quality & Patient Safety Committee 19/8/10

Reviewed Obstetrics Clinical Guidelines Group August 2010

Approved Quality Council 14/4/03