

## Pediatric Medication Administration

### **I. Guidelines**

- Based on formula involving child's body weight and/or body surface area calculations
- Need child's weight in kg
- Pediatric dose should not exceed the minimum adult dose
- At Beebe we always have a co-sign for pediatric meds. (A 2nd pair of eyes to check calculation and dosage).

### **II. Oral Medication**

#### A). Preferred Method (PO)

- Need accurate measuring cups/spoons/syringes
- If a pill or tablet, can the child swallow this?

#### B). Safe Administration Guidelines

- Body positioning
- Correct equipment for age and developmental stage
- Medication Rights
- Parent and Nurse work together to accomplish task as needed

#### C). Guidelines and Techniques for Infants aged 1-3 months and 3-12 months

#### D). Guidelines and Techniques for Children aged 1 year-2.5 years

#### E). Guidelines and Techniques for Children aged 2.5-6 years old

### **III. Injections**

#### A) IM

- *Vastus lateralis* preferred site for infants (birth-1yr old)
- *Vastus lateralis or deltoid* (toddler age 1-3 and 3-11 yrs old) depends on muscle mass/size of child for the deltoid area. 18 months and older preferably for deltoid site
- *Deltoid* preferred for Adolescents/Adults aged 11 yrs old and older
- *Ventrogluteal* can be used for large amounts of solutions

#### B) Subcutaneous

C) Guidelines for Injections

**IV. Intravenous Medications/Intravenous Fluids**

A). IV meds

- Assess IV Site
- Check order and compatibility with solutions/other meds running
- Decrease anxiety of child by prepping med before entering room

B). IVF

**V. Other Med Routes**

A. Rectal

- Not desired route for pediatrics
- Has unpredictable absorption

B. Ophthalmic

- Keep tip of dropper sterile
- Wipe away present discharge or drainage before

C. Otic

- Parental assistance to lay with child

D. Nasal

- Blow the nose before if able

E. Inhaled

- Nebulizers, Inhalers, Spacers with Inhalers

F. Topical

**VI. Commonly used pediatric medications:**

A) Acetaminophen (Tylenol)

B) Albuterol (ProAir)

C) Codeine

D) Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)

E) Ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin)

F) Phenobarbitol

G) Prednisolone (Orapred /Prelone)

H) Amoxicillin(Amoxil)

I) Ampicillin

J) Ceftriaxone (Rocephin)

K) Gentamicin

L) Vancomycin (Vancocin)