(A) Policy Statement

Medications and solutions contained in a sterile field and provided to a sterile field will be labeled with sterility assured.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To reduce the potential for medication errors when dispensing and administering medication from a sterile field.

(C) Procedure

1. All medication placed on a sterile field must be carefully labeled to assure accuracy and safety in administering that medication to patients.

   MEDICATION IS DEFINED AS: "any medicinal substance, agent, product, or solution that is intended to be administered to the patient during the course of an invasive or surgical procedure. This includes such substances as sterile water or saline, irrigation, dye, topical agents, intravenous agents, etc."

2. Medications are to be dispensed directly from the original container via syringe or transfer tubing. Only if the original container is designed to allow for direct pouring of contents to the sterile field, is the use of a syringe acceptable.

3. The Registered Nurse (RN) and scrub nurse will verbally and visually verify that the medication being dispensed is transferred to the correctly labeled container.

4. At the time of dispensing, both RN and scrub person verifies the expiration date.

5. All syringes on the sterile field will be labeled with medication name, concentration, and amount if not discernible by the container.

6. All medications administered to the patient will be documented on the operative record, including strength, route, and amount.

7. If a medication is dispensed to the field without being confirmed by the scrub person, the medication is to be discarded and redispensed.
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<tr>
<th>Approved by:</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christina Powlesland, BSN, RN. Nurse Manager Operating Room</td>
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Review/Revision Date:
- 7/2002
- 7/2004
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Policies Superseded by This Policy: 4-44

*It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.*