

Oral Medication

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Policy/Purpose

Administration of oral medication will be completed in a manner which minimises the risk of harm for the patient

Scope

Nursing and Midwifery Staff and Approved persons with scope for administration and medication management of oral medication therapy

This oral medications document **does not include** the use of Controlled, Recorded or Cytotoxic oral medications – please refer to these policies in the CDHB Fluid and Medication Management Manual

Associated documents

CDHB Fluid and Medication Manual -
Roles and Responsibilities policy
Fluid and Medication Checking policy
Student Nurse Midwife responsibilities with Fluid and Medication Management policy
Self-Medication policy
Take home medications policy

Requirements

- Follow the CDHB Checking Procedure for all oral medications
- Refer to the Roles and Responsibilities policy for Enrolled Nurse restricted scope with oral medication management.

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- Refer to the Student Nurse/Midwife Responsibilities with Fluid and Medication Management regarding Student responsibilities.
- Refer to the patient self-medication policy for self-medication requirements.
- Refer to the Take Home medications policy for the correct procedure for providing patient with medication to take home (only applies to specific areas)

Please note:

- No oral medications are to be crushed without checking the suitability of the medication for this sort of administration, e.g. that the medication is not slow release or enteric coated. Refer to [Guidelines for administration of drugs via enteral feeding tubes](#)
- Always use oral medication syringes for any oral suspension/syrup/fluid (not IV syringes)
- **For Neonates**, the nasogastric route is to be used where the neonates suck/swallow is under developed or impaired

Lippincott Procedure and References

[Adult Oral drug administration](#)

[Infant Oral Drug administration](#)

[Toddler Oral Drug Administration](#)

[Older Child Oral Drug Administration](#)

Measurement/Evaluation

Incident management system

Policy Author	CDHB Fluid & Medication Management Committee
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