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## Rectal Medications

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### Policy/Purpose

To ensure suppository and enema therapy is managed to best practice standards.

### Scope

Nurses/Midwives/Approved persons with scope for rectal administration.

### Associated documents

CDHB Fluid and Medicaiton Manual

### Lippincott procedures and references

#### Rectal Suppository administration

In all situations read and follow the manufacturers instructions

[Adult suppository administration](#)

[Paediatric suppository administration](#)

Document as per Lippincott procedure and service direction.

Use the Bristol Stool Chart as required

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## Enema Administration

In all situations read and follow the manufacturers instructions

[Adult Enema administration](#)

[Paediatric Enema administration](#)

Warm enema fluid to room temperature if required.

**Nozzle length recommendations: please note** This is very dependent on individual size of patient – use clinical judgement.

5-7 cms into rectum for an adult,

2.5-5 cms for a child - 1-13 years

<2.5 cm for an infant - < 1 year

To aid retention, elevate foot of bed by 45 degrees after administration for as long prescribed or as tolerated by patient.

Document as per Lippincott procedure and service direction.

Use the Bristol Stool Chart as required.

## Rectal ointment administration

In all situations read and follow the manufacturers instructions

[Rectal ointment administration](#)

## Measurement/Evaluation

Incident management system

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Procedure Owner</b>       | CDHB Fluid & Medication Management Committee |
| <b>Procedure Authoriser</b>  | CMO & EDON                                   |
| <b>Date of Authorisation</b> | 17 December 2015                             |

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