

Student Nurses, Medicine Administration and Blood Competencies

Route/Class/Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Single Nurse medication administration	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Oral medications excluding Controlled Drugs (CD's)	Can prepare, check and administer medications under the direct supervision ¹ of the registered nurse ² .	Can prepare, check and administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ²	Can prepare, check and administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Controlled Drug Administration (CD's) Oral, Subcutaneous, Intramuscular	Can observe only	Can prepare, check and administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse and can act as 2 nd signatory ² , following Year 2 medicine Safety Training.	Can prepare, check and administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse and can act as 2 nd signatory ² , following Year 2 medicine Safety Training.
IV Fluid Management ³	Can observe only	Can prepare, check and set up infusion under the direct supervision of the registered nurse – only in the last placement of 2 nd Year ² . (The RN to connect, set rate and commence infusion).	Can prepare, check and set up infusion under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² . (The RN to connect, set rate and commence infusion).
Intravenous (IV) medication administration and flushing of cannulae ⁴	Can observe only	Can observe only	Can observe only
Subcutaneous / Intramuscular(SC/ IM) medication administration Excluding controlled drugs	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Per Rectum (PR)	Can administer suppositories and enemas under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² . (Registered nurse to carry out to pre-administration checks e.g. Digital Rectal Examination)	Can administer suppositories and enemas under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² . (Registered nurse to carry out to pre-administration checks e.g. Digital Rectal Examination)	Can administer suppositories and enemas under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² . (Registered nurse to carry out the pre-administration checks e.g. Digital Rectal Administration. Student nurses can carry out pre-administration checks, following attendance at bowel training session in year 3 only).
Inhaled Therapy	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can prepare, check and administer under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Oxygen Therapy	Can set up and set rate under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can set up and set rate under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can set up and set rate under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Topical	Can apply topical creams and solutions under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can apply topical creams and solutions under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can apply topical creams and solutions under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Via Nasogastric tube or Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy	Can administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .	Can administer medications under the direct supervision of the registered nurse ² .
Blood Products (Red cells/platelets/fresh frozen plasma)	Can observe only	Students can collect blood products if they have had supportive training session and documented competency assessment ⁵ .	Students can collect and second check blood products if they have had supportive training session and competency assessment ⁵ .
Administration of medicines under a Patient Group Direction (PGD)	Can observe only	Can observe only	Can observe only

1. Direct Supervision is defined as “the registered nurse is **physically present** with the student **on commencement and discontinuation** of the procedure or if a significant change occurs to the treatment.”
2. Within child health students can only practice under the direct supervision of the registered nurse after the drug has been **second checked with another registered nurse**. The student will only observe the administration of Controlled Drugs and will **not** act as a second signatory for the administration of Controlled Drugs.
3. Intravenous therapy relates to saline, glucose, gelofusine, hartman's solution and saline and glucose **without** potassium already added. Connection of other solutions to patients is **NOT** permitted by student nurses
4. Mixing of intravenous drugs and antibiotics by student nurses is **NOT** permitted.
5. Edge Hill and UCLan student nurses **Adult Branch Only are** permitted to be involved in the collection or checking of blood products – Red cells, FFP, Platelets only. **Child Branch students may only observe.**

Acknowledgements: Table adapted from the Royal Liverpool and Broad Green University Hospital's model of medicine administration and student nurses, received via Edge Hill University. Version 2 approved by Professional Advisory Board 7th February 2013.