



High Desert Health System POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 319
VERSION: 1

SUBJECT: HEPARIN CONCENTRATIONS AVAILABILITY AND FLOOR STOCK GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: To provide standardized guidelines for the stocking and use of different heparin concentrations throughout High Desert Regional Health Center in order to minimize the potential for error by providing clear guidelines and identification of different heparin concentrations by specific dose and form.

POLICY: High Desert Regional Health Center promotes the safe use of various heparin concentrations.

PROCEDURE:

1. The Pharmacy and Therapeutic Committee will review updated “DHS expected practice: Adult Use of Concentrated Heparin” and incorporate new updates into practice as needed.
2. HDRHC will follow the expectations outlined below:
 - A. **Peripheral flush:** All peripheral flushes (pediatrics and adults) are standardized to normal saline, instead of heparin, whenever clinically appropriate at HDRHC Clinics.
 - B. **Pre-filled heparin syringes** are to be used for heparin flushes if normal saline flushes are deemed inadequate.
 - Heparin 10 units/mL
 - Heparin 100 units/mL
 - C. **Heparin Carpuject syringes:** Carpuject heparin 5,000 units/mL syringes are NOT purchased by HDRHC Pharmacy.
 - D. **Concentrated heparin vials:** The maximum heparin vial concentration available is 5000 units/mL. All heparin vials with concentrations greater than 5,000 units/mL are NOT purchased by HDRHC Pharmacy
 - Concentrated heparin vials will only be stocked in the Pharmacy and are limited to the following concentrations for use as IV additive or in special procedures
 - i. Heparin 5,000 units/mL
 - ii. Heparin 1,000 units/mL
 - iii. Heparin 100 units/mL
3. All Heparin medication bins at all HDRHC clinics and HDRHC Pharmacy will be marked with a “**High Alert**” sticker.

ATTACHMENT:

Expected Practice: Adult use of Concentration Heparin (August 2015 Review)

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Supersedes: