The College of Naturopaths of Ontario

Standard of Practice:

Intravenous Infusion Therapy

Introduction

The intent of this standard is to advise Members of the requirements to perform Intravenous Infusion Therapy (IVIT) safely, ethically and competently.

Administering substances by IVIT is a component of the controlled act: "Administering a substance by injection or inhalation" *(Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, S.O. 1991, CHAPTER 18, s. 27).*

Members are authorized to perform IVIT under the *Naturopathy Act, 2007, S.O. 2007, CHAPTER 10, Sched. P, s. 4.1.*

Definitions

Drug: For the purposes of this Standard of Practice, a drug is anything referred to in Table 2 of the General Regulation.

Intravenous Infusion Therapy (IVIT): Initiating, administering and terminating the application of drugs for therapeutic benefit through intravenous infusion.

1. Competency

The Member has the knowledge, skill and judgment necessary to administer a drug by IVIT safely, ethically and competently.

Performance Indicators

Prior to performing IVIT, the Member is in compliance with the Standard of Practice for Prescribing and has completed:

- A course on administering a drug by intravenous injection approved by the Council; and
- An examination on administering a drug by intravenous injection administered or approved by the Council.

2. Assessment and Administration

The Member conducts an assessment and formulates a working diagnosis based on subjective and/or objective findings, prior to performing IVIT.

The Member ensures appropriate administration of a drug by IVIT.

The Member ensures timely reassessment of the patient's progress and response treatment.

Performance Indicators

In addition to meeting the Standard of Practice for Performing Authorized Acts, the Member:

- assesses the patient for contraindications before performing IVIT;
- administers drugs for therapeutic purposes when it is clinically indicated;
- complies with the Standard of Practice for Compounding, where applicable, when reconstituting, diluting, mixing, preparing, packaging or labeling two or more drugs listed in Table 2 of the General Regulation for the purpose of administering a customized therapeutic product to a patient by IVIT;
- Only performs IVIT on pediatric patients when they have the specific knowledge, skill and judgment to do so;
- ensures that resources are available to manage potential outcomes of IVIT.

3. Storage of Materials

The Member ensures that all IVIT materials are stored safely and securely.

Performance Indicators

The Member:

- ensures that all IVIT supplies are current with regard to their expiry date;
- stores drugs requiring refrigeration in a dedicated refrigerator located in an area not accessible to patients;
- ensures that non-refrigerated drugs syringes, administration sets, IV bags, etc. are stored appropriately;
- ensures that drugs are labeled to indicate the date the seal was broken;
- ensures that expired drugs and damaged or open materials are discarded appropriately.

4. Labeling

The Member ensures that all required information is included with all drugs that are administered by IVIT.

Performance Indicators

The following information is included with all drugs that are administered by IVIT. This information may be included in a label affixed to the product, or where space is limited, information may be provided on an accompanying sheet.

- Member's name, title, address and telephone number;
- patient's name;
- name of drugs or substances, and manufacturer where applicable;
- date the drugs or substances were compounded;
- amount or percentage of each substance;
- expiration date;
- directions for the proper use of the drug or substance;
- any cautionary information about the drug or substance.

The following information is included on IVIT bag by affixing a removable label:

- patient's name or initials;
- date of IVIT.

The Member ensures that the removable label is disposed of in a secure manner, such that any identifying information is destroyed/unreadable.

Related Standards & Guidelines

Communicating a Diagnosis
Compounding
Consent

Emergency Preparedness
Infection Control
Injection
Performing Authorized Acts
Record Keeping
CONO Policy for AED
CONO Policy for Laminar Air Flow Hood

Legislative Framework

General Regulation
Naturopathy Act, 2007
Professional Misconduct Regulation
Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991
Occupations Health and Safety Act

Disclaimer
In the event of any inconsistency between this standard and any legislation that governs the practice of Naturopathic Doctors, the legislation shall govern.