Metered Dose Inhaler



NURSE DELEGATION: INSTRUCTIONS FOR GENERAL NURSING TASK

General delegated tasks are those tasks that the Nurse identifies as general in nature and once learned can be performed for all residents. The Caregiver to whom the task is delegated must demonstrate ability to perform the task as instructed by the Nurse. By signing this delegation form, the Caregiver being delegated agrees to perform the task as taught. The nurse will review Caregiver performance annually or as needed to assure continued competency in performance of the task.

General Task: METERED DOSE INHALER - Closed Mouth Technique

Supplies Needed

- Inhaler prescribed by physician
- Disposable non-sterile gloves and impermeable plastic trash bag
- Hand-washing solution

Procedures/Steps to Follow to Perform the Task

- 1. Explain the procedure to the resident.
- 2. Assemble the equipment at a convenient work area.
- 3. Put on gloves.
- 4. Assist the resident to a sitting or semi-reclining position.
- 5. Shake the inhaler canister 15 to 20 times.
- 6. Hand inhaler to resident and instruct resident to take a slow deep breath in and exhale completely before placing mouthpiece into mouth.
- 7. Instruct the resident to insert the mouthpiece between the teeth, and close lips.
- 8. Gently compress (or instruct resident to compress) the canister and take in a slow deep breath and then hold breath as long as possible before exhaling. If more than one puff is prescribed have resident take 3 or 4 deep breaths before repeating this step.
- 9. Provide resident comfort measures.
- 10. Remove gloves and discard in plastic trash bag.
- 11. Wash hands with hand-washing solution.
- 12. Document treatment in MAR.

Outcomes

- 1. Aerosolized medications will be delivered per physician's orders.
- 2. Resident will have improved oxygenation and breathing.

Potential Risks/Side Effects and Appropriate Actions to Deal with them (include what to observe for and report, what to do, and whom to contact

- 1. If the resident experiences palpitations (bounding heart beat) or muscle tremors, discontinue the treatment and immediately notify RN/Physician.
- 2. Make sure that canister is not empty to assure that resident is getting medication. If not sure, place the canister in a basin of water. A full canister will sink to bottom; a partially full canister will float with bottom pointed downward; an empty canister will float on its side. If canister is empty, discard and use a new canister for procedure. A second canister should be ordered when canister is half full.

Metered Dose Inhaler



 $General\ Task-METERED\ DOSE\ INHALER-Closed\ Mouth\ Technique$

Signature of CAREGIVER	Signature of Delegating Nurse	Delegation Competency Review Date