

F270 Rectal or Vaginal Suppository

Purpose

Administer medications into the rectum.

Administer medication into the vagina.

Applies To

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses

Other (*Identify*): _____

Equipment/Supplies

- Medication suppository (rectal or vaginal) dosage as ordered by physician.
- Disposable gloves.
- Water soluble lubricant.
- Plastic trash bag.

Procedure

1. Wash hands. Refer to the Hand Washing Procedure.
2. Gather equipment and explain the procedure to the client.

Rectal Suppository:

3. Place client on left side and drape for privacy.
4. Remove wrapper from medication.
5. Separate the buttocks and insert the suppository with index finger of gloved hand until it is beyond the internal sphincter.
6. Instruct client to take deep breaths through the mouth during procedure.
7. Cleanse area as needed.
8. Discard disposable items and wash hands.
9. Instruct client to lie quietly for 10-15 minutes.

Vaginal Suppository:

1. Position client in supine position with knees flexed and legs apart.
2. Cleanse perineal area as needed.
3. Separate labia and insert the suppository as far into vagina as possible using applicator as indicated.
4. Discard disposable items.

Documentation Guidelines

Document in the client’s record:

1. Procedure performed.
2. Client tolerance of procedure.
3. Observations of site and any drainage.
4. Teaching completed and client response to teaching.
5. If self administration taught, document client ability and need for further instruction.
6. Any other pertinent observations or changes in plan.

Related Procedures

Medication Administration, Enemas, Rectal Tube

Policy History

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