

Patient Safety ALERT : Change in practice around documentation of cannulation

Following a successful test of change on KGV ward, which led to improved compliance and documentation of the cannulation bundle, we are now implementing the change Trust wide.

The key changes:

- All cannulas inserted must have the red cannulation sticker completed and attached to the back of the prescription chart.
- Each cannula inserted will be identified as Cannula 1, 2, 3 ,4 etc .
- When undertaking drug rounds the patient can be reviewed as to
 - 1) Whether the patient has a cannula
 - 2) Assess the VIP score and record it in the drug chart
 - 3) Record when the cannula is flushed
 - 4) Record when the cannula is removed.

The cannula care and management of the cannula must be recorded in the Patient's Individual Care Plan and evaluated as appropriate.

Communication of this change will be issued through this Patient Safety Update Alert, Divisional Newsletter, Ward Managers Forum and through formal cannulation and ward based training.

There is also a cannula audit on Meridian which will allow us to monitor compliance and improved practice.

The red cannulation sticker is currently being updated in line with infection control and national guidance. This will be implemented once the stocks of the current red cannulation sticker are used up.

If you anticipate any issues or difficulties, or require any additional information, please contact:

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