Student Nurses Administering Medications

Here is some general information about Nursing Students and the Administration of Medications

1) The student may not administer any IV medications without supervision.

2) For cohort (non-precepted) students, the clinical instructor must be present for the administration of IV medications and IV push medications (including NS flush) unless arrangements have been made with the staff nurse and the staff nurse agrees to supervise the student.

3) Medications administered by other routes will be given under the direct supervision of the clinical instructor or staff RN/LPN unless the student nurse is authorized by the instructor/preceptor after negotiation with the staff RN/LPN, to independently administer medications (other than IV).
   Note: Senior nursing students participating in their final precepted clinical may administer normal saline IV flush independently if requirements above in section 8c for independent administration of medications have been met.

4) Controlled substances:
   a) Students and instructors will not have access to controlled substances. If a patient for whom the student is caring requires a controlled substance, a Providence RN must obtain the controlled substance and the substance must be in the RN's view at all times. With direct RN supervision, the student may co-waste (waste with a 2nd RN while 1st RN is observing), administer, & document the controlled substance administration, but the RN is to co-sign indicating that it was witnessed.
   Note: in order to be in compliance with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) the documentation must show that the Providence RN has clear chain of custody of the controlled substance at all times (from sign out/waste in Pyxis, to wasting in Pyxis to co-signature on medication administration record)

5) Pyxis Access

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Progression</th>
<th>Nursing Student</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Year Or First Year (ADN programs)</td>
<td>No Pyxis Access</td>
<td>Pyxis access that restricts narcotics and overrides</td>
<td>First year nursing students need direct supervision during all aspects of the medication administration process. Narcotic access is allowed only for staff.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Year or Second Year (ADN programs) and Practicum / precepted</td>
<td>Pyxis access that restricts narcotics and overrides</td>
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<td>Second year students should be able to pull medications with supervision during the administration of medications. Narcotic access is allowed only for staff.</td>
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