Fact sheet

New National Inpatient Medication Chart (NIMC)

Use of the NIMC is mandatory for all Australian health service organisations, and required for accreditation purposes under the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has recently released a new version of the NIMC. This follows a comprehensive national trial in which a number of SA health services participated. The new version of the NIMC includes:

Venous thromboembolism (VTE) prophylaxis section *NEW*
This new section is designed to reduce the rate of healthcare associated VTE by prompting prescribers to assess and document the risk of VTE for all adult patients and to prescribe prophylaxis (pharmacological and/or mechanical) where appropriate. This section is included on the NIMC (acute), NIMC (GP e-version) and in a modified form on the NIMC (day surgery).

Warfarin section *UPDATED*
The warfarin section now includes an additional space for the initials of a second person to document double checking of the dose of this high risk medicine.

Variable dose medicine section *UPDATED*
To improve interpretation of drug levels and better guide dosing decisions, this section now includes space to document the actual time of medicine administration (in the ‘Time given’ row), which may be different from the prescribed dose time.

EPAS Downtime Form *NEW*
The NIMC (acute) is the medication chart included in packs for use during periods of downtime; ‘EPAS Downtime Form’ is now indicated on the right hand margin on the front of the chart.

SA implementation and further information
The new versions are now available for implementation in SA health services and educational resources and tools are available to support this. NIMC Support Materials including the NIMC User Guide and VTE resources can be found at: http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au.

For more information
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