MEDICATION REACTIONS

Policy #: CP240

NHPCO Standard(s):

BOD Approval/Review
05/08/18

Regulatory Citation(s):
COPs 418.54, 58, 106, 10 NYCRR 793.5(e) and (f)

POLICY

High Peaks Hospice (HPH) staff will immediately report all medication reactions including allergic reactions to the attending physician and document the adverse event within 24 hours. Staff will respond to major medication reactions by adhering to the emergency policy procedure as outlined in this policy. Major medication reactions are monitored by HPH.

DEFINITION

Medical Reaction is an untoward physical or behavioral response to a medication.

Classifications of Drug Reactions:
- Minor - examples: localized dermatologic manifestations, nausea, headache, drowsiness
- Intermediate - examples: generalized rash, alopecia vomiting, diarrhea, changes in motor coordination, judgment, lethargy/overstimulation.
- Major - examples: Impending Anaphylaxis-respiratory distress, hives, sweating, dizziness, thready pulse, hypotension.

PROCEDURES

1. When a medication reaction is suspected, the nurse is responsible to:
   A. withhold the medication
   B. report the reaction as soon as possible to the attending physician, the Patient Care Coordinator (PCC)
   C. notify the pharmacy that dispensed the medication
   D. document the reaction on a “Medication Incident Report” form, using one form for each reaction

2. All medication reactions are documented in the patient medical record. The following information is included:
   A. date and time the reaction occurred
   B. name, dose, and route of medication given
   C. specific objective description of the medication reaction
   D. nursing assessment of the patient following the medication reaction
E. description of nursing intervention of the patient in response to the reaction
F. date and time physician was notified of the reaction
G. changes in physician’s orders as a result of the reaction
H. on-going nursing assessment and intervention as necessary
I. review of medications used by patient

3. The nurse will complete a “Medication Incident Report” form and submit it within 24 hours to the PCC for review and signature.
   A. The PCC will the medication reaction with relevant staff members
   B. Major medication reactions will be promptly reported to the Executive Director and appropriate agencies as required

4. The completed “Medication Incident Report” forms are forwarded to the Quality Assurance (QA) Coordinator for review and recording.
   A. The incidents are reported on the QA Coordinator’s quarterly report.
   B. Major medication reactions are reviewed by the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) committee.

LAST REVIEW DATE:  IDT 10/04/17, Clinical Comm 02/13/18, BOD 03/26/18

LAST UPDATED:  Comp Coord 02/01/18, 05/30/18, 09/01/18

BOARD APPROVAL:  May 8, 2018