

The Five Right Steps in Administering Medicine

Indicate on Medication Chart after completing steps.

1. **Right Child-** Check name on medicine label and child's name- (Check off)
2. **Right Medication-** Medicine should be in original labeled container. Verify label with medicine form- (Check off)
3. **Right Dosage-** Check the dosage on the label and authorization and the measuring spoon- (Indicate dosage given)
4. **Right Time-** Medication at JHEEC is administered at 12:00 pm unless otherwise specified. Check time indicated on form- (Write time given)
5. **Right Route-** Check label and parent authorization. Know how the medicine is supposed to be given. Ex: Orally, eye drops, ointment. (Indicate route)

Considerations for Administering Medication

Side Effects

A side effect from medication is an undesired reaction by one's body. Many side effects are well known and are usually mild. These includes headache, stomachache, fatigue, muscle aches or dizziness. Drugs may cause several side effects and children may react differently to the same drug.

Allergic Reaction

Allergic reactions to medication are less common and have more serious consequences. These include rash, itching swelling, dizziness and/or difficulty breathing. If a child is having an allergic reaction, parents and pediatrician need to be notified immediately. If the child is having breathing difficulties, call **911 immediately**. Some children with allergies may have an Epi-pen. After injecting Epi-pen, call 911, then call parent.

Parents, Staff & Pediatrician

Parents should tell staff of any medication that child is taking whether only at home, or at school, due to possible side effects and what to do if they occur. It is not always necessary to stop the medication if the side effect only causes slight irritation. These side effects will typically lessen after several doses. Staff should notify parents if reactions occur. The parent should notify pediatrician if side effects are severe or persist.