Site Applicability
BC Children’s Hospital & BC Women’s Hospital + Health Centre

Purpose
To ensure that orders for insulin are clearly described if there is a specific brand.

Scope
This policy applies to all prescribers.

Policy
All new orders for insulin will specify brand and type of insulin.

Procedure
a) When ordering insulin the following information will be included:
   i. The type of insulin (e.g. Regular, NPH) to distinguish exact product to be given.
   ii. Trade name (e.g. Humulin N, Novolin NPH, Humulin R, Novolin Toronto, NovoRapid, Humalog, Levemir, Lantus and Basaglar).

b) When ordering sliding scale insulin order:
   • Identify as a sliding scale order
   • Identify exact amount to be given and intervals
   • Do not use abbreviations

N.B.: Insulin is considered a High Alert medication. Please follow specific procedures as outlined in PTN. 01.010 High Alert Medications and PTN.01.013 Independent Double Check for Medication Administration.

Compliance
Prescribers, pharmacists and nurses.

Related Policies
- PTN.01.010 High Alert Medications
- PTN.01.013 Independent Double Check for Medication Administration
- PTN.01.001 Medication Order Writing

Version History

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