
Book review

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Home Care IV Therapy Manual, by Paula Kruzic, Dru Grundfast, Lila Stites, and Elise John. 1987; Supplements 1987, 1988, 1989. Aspen Publishers, Inc, 1600 Research Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850. \$105.

This IV therapy manual, developed by the Hospital Home Health Care Agency of California, is a complete and comprehensive document that home health care agencies can use in developing and implementing a home intravenous program. The Hospital Home Health Care Agency of California developed this manual in response to a change in the delivery of home health care. Patients discharged from hospitals are increasingly in need of sophisticated high technology care, especially home intravenous therapy.

The manual was developed based on the 1975 California Nurse Practice Act, which stated that policies and protocols should be

developed from a standardized procedure with all professional groups represented when registered nurses are functioning in areas that overlap practice traditionally ascribed to physicians. Committee members were selected by the Hospital Home Health Care Agency to include members from nursing, medicine, pharmacy, and law.

The manual and supplements cover the scope of home IV therapy from venipuncture for drawing blood to home transfusion therapy. Each part of the manual covers a specific application of intravenous therapy.

Part one is a standardized procedure for drawing blood for laboratory analysis. This part includes criteria for certification and recertification of staff, the protocol and procedure for venipuncture, and a staff education unit with goals and objectives and a comprehensive test for certification of the nurse by the agency.

Part two is the IV therapy program and standardized procedure for IV administration of medications and solutions. This part is organized in the same manner with a statement of approval, criteria for certifica-

tion and recertification for IV administration of medications and solutions, approved medications, protocol, and staff education test for certification. In addition, this part contains specific applications, such as an anaphylaxis protocol, infusion through a Broviac/Hickman catheter, and a home IV orders worksheet. These first two parts present specific content needed by nurses in implementing a home intravenous program.

The third part provides a standardized procedure for intravenous administration of chemotherapy. This section is organized the same way as the first two but also has a drug manual for common medications used in chemotherapy.

Part four covers home parenteral therapy, including criteria for admission to the program, procedures and policy, staff education, and testing for agency certification of staff. Parts five and six cover care and maintenance of central venous line catheters and infusion pumps.

Part seven is a collection of patient education programs related to TPN, IV therapy through an IV cannula and through a Broviac/Hickman catheter, and a caregiver manual for administration of IV and continuous subcutaneous opiates. This part includes material that can be given to the patient as well as complete instructional guides. These materials would save an agency much time in not having to develop teaching guides and patient instruction sheets.

Part eight is a complete guide for IV or continuous subcutaneous administration of opiates and narcan. This part covers the

various types of administration as well as the roles of the hospice nurse and private duty nurses. Staff education information and a test are also included.

Part nine is the 1988 supplement to the manual and covers the development of a quality assurance plan for home IV therapy. In addition to guidelines for designing and operationalizing a quality assurance plan, the appendix includes an extensive collection of tools for monitoring the quality and satisfaction of patient and physicians with the home IV therapy program.

Part ten is the 1989 supplement, which is a standardized procedure for home transfusion therapy. This part includes policy, procedures, and supplies needed for home transfusion therapy. Also included are a quality assurance plan and monitoring guidelines. The appendix includes suggested reading for opiate administration and for home transfusion therapy as well as answers for tests over specific content.

This comprehensive manual provides content necessary for an agency to set up a home IV program. The manual provides staff education and guidelines for agency certification to maintain a home IV therapy program. Although the manual is costly, the detail and specificity of the content should allow an agency to use the material and handouts without requiring additional staff time to personalize the material for their agency. The continuing supplements will allow the manual to remain current. The nurse in the agency would have a wealth of information on all aspects of home IV therapy readily available in this manual.