

Medication Administration Six Rights

Surveyors and preceptors should use the information contained within this document as a reference tool when surveying medication administration. Surveyors should reference the six rights each time they cite a medication administration deficient practice within a citation. Regardless of the type of medication, the following six rights must always be followed.

Each time you administer a medication, you need to be sure to have the:

- Right individual
- Right medication
- Right dose
- Right time
- Right route
- Right documentation

You must check for all six rights every time you administer any drug to any individual.

Each time that you give a medication, you also need to remember to do the “Three Checks.” This means that you are going to do a “triple-check” to make sure that the six rights are present each time that you give a medication.

You must:

1st Check: Remove the medication from the locked area and check the prescription label against the medication log to make sure that they match.

2nd Check: Before pouring the medication, check the prescription label against the medication order to make sure that they match.

3rd Check: After you pour the medication, but before you give it, check the prescription label against the medication log entry again to make sure that they match.