



UNIT FARMASI
PEJABAT KESIHATAN DAERAH KULAI
JOHOR



POLISI ON MANAGEMENT OF HIGH ALERT MEDICATIONS
KLINIK KESIHATAN
PEJABAT KESIHATAN DAERAH KULAI

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POLICY ON MANAGEMENT OF HIGH ALERT MEDICATIONS

KLINIK KESIHATAN, PEJABAT KESIHATAN DAERAH KULAI

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Some medications have a very narrow margin of safety and can cause severe patient harm when implicated in an adverse drug event. Hence, it required heightened vigilance. The consequence of an error associated with use of these medications can result in significant patient injury and special injury and special precautions must be employed with their overall management. These medications are identified as High Alert Medications.

2.0 DEFINITION

High Alert Medications are medications that bear a heightened risk of causing significant patient harm when these medications are used in error.

3.0 POLICY

- High-alert medications will be prescribed, dispensed and administered using practices that are deemed safe by Klinik-klinik Kesihatan Daerah Kulai.
- Prescribing of high-alert medications shall be in concordance with the general prescribing policy as stated in Department Policy.

4.0 PRINCIPLE TO SAFEGUARD THE USED OF HIGH ALERT MEDICATION

- 1) Reduce or eliminate the possibility of error
 - Limit the number of high alert medication on the health clinic drug formulary
 - Limit the concentration of medication available
- 2) Make errors visible
 - Having two individuals to countercheck on the medications, calculation, preparations and administration.
 - Practice 5 Right
 - “Know, Check, Ask” before giving medication to patient
- 3) Minimize the consequences of error
 - Stock high alert medications in smaller volume/unit

5.0 Clinic’s high alert medications listed in this policy is be based on Guideline On Safe Use of High Alert Medications (HAMs) 2nd Edition, Pharmaceutical Services Programmer, Ministry of Health Malaysia, November 2020.

6.0 High Alert Medication List

No	Category	Medications	Sticker HAM	
			Vial/amp	Rack/Bin
1.	Adrenergic agonists,IV	Adrenaline Acid (Epinephrine) Tartrate 1 mg / ml Injection	√	√
2.	Antiarrhythmics, IV	Lignocaine HCl (Lidocaine) 2% Injection	√	√
3.	Antithrombotic agents	Warfarin Sodium 2mg/3mg/5mg Tablet	√	√
4.		Heparin 5000 units/ml Injection	√	√
5.		Heparin Sodium 50 units in Sodium Chloride Injection	√	√
6.	Inotropic Medications, IV	Dopamine HCl 200mg / 5ml Injection	√	√
7.	Magnesium Sulphate Injections	Magnesium Sulphate 2.47g/ 5ml Inj.	√	√
8.	Insulin, Subcutaneous	Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human, Insugen-N 100IU/ml		√
9.		Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human, Insulatard 100IU/ml		√
10.		Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human , 30/70 100IU/ml		√
11.		Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human, Mixtard 100IU/ml		√
12.		Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human, Insugen–R 100IU/ml		√
13.		Insulin Recombinant Synthetic Human, Actrapid 100IU/ml		√
14.		Insulin Detemir 100IU/ml Flexpen (Levemir)		√
15.		Insulin aspart 30% and protaminated insulin aspart 70% 100U/ML inj (NOVOMIX 30)		√
16.	Moderate Sedation Agents, IV	Diazepam 10 mg / 2 ml Injection	√	√
17.	Opioids, IV, Oral, Transdermal	Methadone Syrup 5mg/ml	√	√
18.		Morphine Sulphate 10 mg / ml Injection	√	√
19.		Tramadol 50mg Capsule		√
20.	Oxytocin, IV	Oxytocin 10 units / ml Injection	√	
21.	Dextrose, Hypertonic (20% or greater)	Dextrose 20% Injection	√	√
22.		Dextrose 50% Injection	√	√

7.0 Management of High Alert Medications

- High Alert Medications are medications that bear a heightened risk of causing significant patient harm when these medication are used in error.
- High Alert Medication should have **HIGH ALERT MEDICATION** labels on storage shelves/containers/product packages/loose vials OR ampules.
- Ensure the **HIGH ALERT MEDICATION** label did not cover the information written on the product's label.
- Any changes of brand/color/preparation of High Alert Medication must be informed to the users as soon as possible.
- Medications identified as high alert should be targeted for specific error preventive strategies.
- High Alert Medication will be prescribed, dispensed and administered using practice that are proven safe.
- High Alert Medication shall be checked upon receiving by the healthcare professionals
- High Alert Medication must be counterchecked before they are prepared, dispensed and administered to the patients.
- High Alert Medications to be dispensed to patients need not to be labelled as high alert.
- Identify and keep apart look alike sound alike of high alert medications.