



Give it on time

Avoiding delayed and omitted doses of medicines

Some medicine doses may be intentionally omitted or delayed. This should be recorded on the Kardex using codes and action taken recorded in the patient's notes. The following are examples of action to consider following an omitted dose.

Code	Reason	Action
①	Nil by mouth	Has patient been reviewed? Do essential medicines need to be prescribed by another route e.g. antiepileptics?
④	Route not available	
②	Patient refused	Has patient been reviewed? Is explanation of treatment required, alternative treatment or change prescription from regular to as required?
③	Patient not available	Can dose be administered later? (Consider when next dose is due)
⑤	Patient vomiting	Can dose be administered later? (Consider when next dose is due)
⑥	Drug not available	Has supply been ordered? Has it been delivered? When available, can dose be administered later? (Consider when next dose is due)
⑦	Other	Has the reason been recorded on the Kardex? Does the patient need reviewed?
⑧	Prescriber enters for each dose to be withheld	Check when administration to restart? Only prescriber enters 'DR'. If nurse does not administer due to separate prescriber's instruction, use 'O' and record reason

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