



CERNER FLASH

02/01/2021

Nurse Witness Requirements on Medications

Some build inconsistencies have been identified in the way the nurse witness requirement displays at some hospital sites but not at others. Efforts have been made to review, update and standardize these requirements. You may notice an update for medications that require a second nurse witness during medication administration or rate changes.

Remember that a second nurse witness is vital on high-risk medications to keep our patients safe.

Some examples of medications/routes that require nurse witness are below. This is not a comprehensive list.

- Heparin infusions should have a required nurse witness for new bags and rate changes, but not for subcutaneous administrations.
- Insulin IV push and infusions should have a required nurse witness for new administrations and rate changes. Insulin subcutaneous should not have a required nurse witness.
- Fentanyl Infusions require a nurse witness for new bags and rate changes but fentanyl IV push does not.
- All chemotherapy medications require a second nurse witness

The screenshot shows a medication administration interface. At the top, it displays the medication name: "insulin regular 100 units [2 units/hr] + Sodium Chloride 0.9% 100 mL". Below this, there are instructions: "100 mL IV Infusion 2 mL/hr Titrate Instructions: Titrate per Insulin Infusion Reference Chart to blood glucose goal of 140-180 mg/dL. Order Weight: 75 kg Start Date: 01/31/21 8:24:00 EST Recommended starting rate = glucose level / 100. Begin once blood glucose is greater than 180 mg/dL. If insulin infusion i...".

There are two rows of checkboxes for "insulin regular 100 units/1 mL" and "Sodium Chloride 0.9% 100 mL", both with "Yes" selected. A "Change" button is to the right.

The "Performed date / time" is set to 01/31/2021 at 1310 EST, with a "Comment" button.

The "Performed by" field is populated with "Cemer Test, RN Nineteen Cemer".

The "Witnessed by" field is highlighted in yellow.

The "Bag #" is 1.

The "Site" field is highlighted in yellow.

The "Volume (mL)" is 100.

The "Rate (mL/hr)" is 2.

The "insulin regular Dose" is 2 units/hr.