

Administration, Prescribing, and Dispensing of Substances¹

(Version: 11/18/2010)

Definition:

1. Administration: Administration of a substance is providing a patient with a substance by either performing the administration or witnessing the administration of a substance by hospital personnel for the purposes of treating or preventing a disorder or condition.

(See Immunizations/Vaccinations Guidelines for administering of preparations intended for active immunological prophylaxis).

2. Prescriptions: The professional act of ordering a medication. Be careful that in capturing prescription information that there is no redundancy in capturing the act of administering the medication. For VMDB purposes, this information should not be transmitted to VMDB.

3. Dispensing: The professional act of providing a medication directly to a client for administration to the patient by an owner.

Introduction: Tracking the act of ordering a medication or dispensing a medication should be an institutional decision. These guidelines are to be viewed as a method to track this information for outcomes assessment, adverse drug reactions, therapeutic trials, etc.

Root Concept (Procedure):

Administering, prescribing and dispensing substances are children of the root Procedure by Method:

- Procedure by method (procedure) *128927009*
 - Introduction (procedure) *107733003*
 - Prescription (procedure) *16076005*
 - Dispensing medication (procedure) *373784005*

1. Administration

Use a procedure concept that is a child of Introduction (procedure) 107733003, for example

- Injection of substance (procedure) 281706009
- Administration of drug or medicament (procedure) 18629005
- Administration of antineoplastic agent (procedure) 363688001

A substance may be post-coordinated using the direct substance attribute. Following relationship (role) grouping rules the attribute value pair is: method = injection, and, direct substance = substance. (Also see examples Case 1 and 2).

- Injection of substance (procedure) 281706009
 - Group*
 - method (attribute) 260686004
 - injection– action (qualifier value) 129326001
 - direct substance (attribute) 363701004
 - steroid (substance) 116566001116566001

2. Prescriptions:

Use Prescription (procedure) 16076005, adding a direct substance as needed. (See case examples 1 and 2 for proper post coordination of the direct substance)

3. Dispensing:

Use a procedure concept that is a child of Dispensing medication (procedure) 373784005, and add the direct substance, for example.

- Dispensing medication (procedure) 373784005
 - Group*
 - method (attribute) 260686004
 - dispensing - action (qualifier value)) 440338007
 - direct substance (attribute) 363701004
 - amoxicillin (substance) 372687004

Comments:

1. Use substances as a value of the Direct Substance attribute when possible (products only when substances are not available). Substances are used as chemical constituents of drugs, food, allergens, toxicities, etc. Products may be used for provider order entry prescribing, formulary management, etc.

Examples:

Case 1: "Chemotherapy: Administration of Gemcitabine"

Administration of antineoplastic agent (procedure) *363688001*

Group

- method (attribute) *260686004*
 - administration - action (qualifier value) *129445006*
 - direct substance (attribute) *363701004*
 - gemcitabine (substance) *386920008*
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Case 2: "Injection of left stifle joint with hyaluronic acid"

Injection of stifle joint (procedure) *122506003*

Group

- method (attribute) *260686004*
 - injection- action (qualifier value) *129326001*
 - direct substance (attribute) *363701004*
 - hyaluronic acid (substance) *38218009*
 - procedure site - indirect (attribute) *405814001*
 - stifle joint (body structure) *116010006*
 - laterality (attribute) *272741003*
 - left (qualifier value) *7771000*
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¹Written by the VMDB Taskforce on Development of SNOMED Guidelines. The committee wishes to recognize contributions provided by Dr. Jeff Wilcke and Dr. Penny Livesay.