

Sydney Children's Hospital	Clinical Manual	Pain Service
Section: 7		Effective Date: 17 February 2004

APPENDIX 1. LEARNING AND COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT PLAN – CONTINUOUS EPIDURAL INFUSIONS

NAME: _____

WARD: _____

COMMENCEMENT DATE: _____

EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE: _____

Guidelines for assessors:

- The self-assessment should initially be completed by the new staff member, in consultation with the Clinical Nurse Educator.
- Planning of learning and competency assessment activities and setting of target dates should be negotiated between the new staff member and the Clinical Nurse Educator
- Validation of learning and assessment activities can be undertaken by the Clinical Nurse Educator, or by Clinical Nurse Specialists who are accredited.
- If assistance is required to develop or complete the plan, please contact PaEDS for advice.
- Please access learning resources from Clinical Nurse Educators

Knowledge competencies	Self Assessment*			Learning activities	Target date	Validation	
	0	1	2			This confirms that the above person is able to demonstrate knowledge and perform skills to level that the assessor considers to be competent	
						Date	Signature of Assessor
Demonstrates an understanding of the pathophysiology of pain				Learning activities			
Demonstrates an understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the spinal cord							
Demonstrates an understanding of the potential side effects of medications used for epidural infusions & identifies associated signs and symptoms							
Demonstrates ability to accurately calculate drug dosage according to patients' weight							
Demonstrates knowledge of the management of potential complications associated with epidural infusions							
Identifies action required in emergency situations							

* 0= never done; 1= needs review; 2= can perform without review

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Skill & knowledge competencies	Self Assessment*			Learning and assessment activities	Target date	Validation	
	0	1	2			Date	Signature of Assessor
Demonstrates ability to monitor patient for symptoms of potential complications				Activities			
Demonstrates knowledge of and adheres to principles and requirements regarding handling of Schedule 8 medications							
Demonstrates maintenance of principles of infection control and aseptic techniques							
Demonstrates ability to change bag of epidural fluid maintaining aseptic technique and re-program epidural pump according to hospital policy							
Demonstrates knowledge and ability to correctly remove an epidural catheter							
Demonstrates ability to communicate with patient and their family regarding need for ongoing observations							
Demonstrates ability to accurately assess and document all relevant observations according to hospital policy							

* 0= never done; 1= needs review; 2= can perform without review