



Med-Pass Alternative administration times

The pharmacy can support assigning administration times to medications by classes when requested by Nursing Centers. This option can be used to manage the number of medications administered by medication pass times. The following are suggestions to reduce nursing burden of the 8AM – 9AM medication pass:

6AM (early morning) Med-Pass medications

Levothyroxine (Synthroid/Levothroid)

Digoxin

Proton Pumps (Aciphex, Nexium, Omeprazole, Prevacid, and Protonix)

Lunch Med-Pass medications

Diuretics (Furosemide) – may help reduce falls, staff can be more available for assistance during the afternoon.

Lunch or Dinner Med-Pass medications

Once a day bulk or fiber laxatives

Once a day vitamin supplements

Once a day Potassium supplements

Afternoon Med-Pass medication

Warfarin (Coumadin) – Most lab results are back by mid-day or early afternoon.

Bedtime

Med-Pass medications

Aricept

Once a day laxatives (Docusate / Colace)

Remeron

Statins (Simvastatin, Lipitor)

Anytime Med-Pass medication

Fentanyl patches (Duragesic)

- Levothyroxine (Synthroid / Levothroid) can be given at 6 AM that may improve efficacy
- Digoxin can be given at 6 AM. Since Digoxin administration requires a pulse, changing digoxin's administration time has a larger impact than just the time to administer a medication
- PPIs (Prilosec, Nexium, Prevacid, Protonix) can be given at 6 AM that may improve efficacy
- Aricept can be administered at bedtime / evening. This may aid with managing possible drug effects
- Remeron can be administered at bedtime / evening since it can aid with sleep
- Once-a-day laxatives (docusate / Colace) can be given evening / bedtime that may improve efficacy
- Once-a-day bulk or fiber laxatives (Metamucil) can be administered with lunch or dinner
- Once-a-day vitamin supplements (One a Day, Zinc, Iron, Vitamin C, etc.) can be given around lunch or dinner.
- Once-a-day potassium supplements can be given around lunch or dinner
- Duragesic patches can be administered at any time. Since the administration / documentation can be time consuming, moving the administration can have a positive impact on the morning medication pass
- Administer Coumadin with the late afternoon med pass after INR results are known
- Statins have a better clinical effect when administered at bedtime
- Some facilities have had good outcomes by administering diuretics at lunch time that resulted in decreasing falls. This can aid in decreasing falls when there are trends of falls for residents receiving diuretics within a few hours of administration. The staff can be more available for assistance during the afternoon.