

# PERFORMING AN INDEPENDENT DOUBLE-CHECK BY VISUAL VERIFICATION

HIGH - ALERT MEDICATIONS

## INDEPENDENT DOUBLE-CHECKS BY VISUAL VERIFICATION

- Completed separately and independently by a second Health Care Practitioner
- Performed on all calculations for High-Alert Medication preparation and administration
- Visual confirmation happens during preparation and administration, including at the bedside



## WHEN A COLLEAGUE ASKS YOU TO DOUBLE-CHECK A HIGH-ALERT MEDICATION:



### 1 | MEDICATION CALCULATION

Perform all calculations for preparation and administration of the High-Alert Medication without looking at your colleague's calculations, then check to ensure they match

### 2 | MEDICATION PREPARATION

After your colleague prepares the medication, visually verify the following:

- Correct medication and concentration
- Correct volume of medication needed
- Correct diluent and volume needed
- Correct volume and concentration of finished preparation



### 3 | MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION

Use the Medication Administration Record (MAR) or provider-specific record to visually verify the following before administration:

#### All Routes

- Correct client/patient using two identifiers with an additional check at the bedside
- Correct medication and concentration
- Correct dose for the client/patient
- Correct route of administration
- Correct time

#### Additional Checks for Infusions

- Correct rate of administration
- Correct pump settings
- Correct administration set and connections
- Trace administration set from pump to patient

**\*\*Complete all double-checks for administration of High-Alert Medication infusions at the bedside\*\***

### 4 | DOCUMENTATION

Sign or initial the MAR or provider-specific record after your colleague to indicate you have completed the independent double-check



Want to Learn More?

<https://healthproviders.sharedhealthmb.ca/projects-standards-and-guidelines/>

