Medication Cross Check

PROCEDURE

STEPS

1. Provider 1 announces: 'Med-Check' / 'Safety-Check' / 'Cross-Check' — 'I am going to give:'
2. State the drug name, dose, route, rate, and reason
3. Provider 2 asks 'Contraindications?' — verify appropriate vital signs, known allergies, expiration date
4. If none, state 'No Contraindications'
5. State the drug concentration and the volume to be administered, in milliliters
6. Never say 'amp' or 'vial' — or state the number of tablets
7. Show the vial/bottle to Provider 2, if safe to do so
8. Provider 2 asks 'Volume?' ('Quantity?' for PO), concurs with positive visual verification, and authorizes: 'Sounds good' / 'Give it' / 'Go Ahead'

BEFORE YOU START

- The MACC must be completed prior to the administration of ANY medication
- It applies to all medications
- Provider 1 gives the medication; Provider 2 verifies — remember 'R.C.V.'
- Provider 2, if an EMT, simply confirms and repeats back what they see and hear — no advanced medication knowledge required
- Essentially, only Provider 2 can authorize administration of the medication

KIT YOU NEED

- The vial or bottle, to show Provider 2 for positive visual verification
- Concentration and volume in mL (or tablet count) ready to state out loud

IF IT GOES WRONG

- Any discrepancy, disagreement, or need for clarification must be resolved before continuing the cross-check
- Any interruption or change in patient condition: Provider 1 re-initiates the whole process
- Avoid ambiguous confirmations like 'okay'
- RED RULE: NEVER give the contents of a syringe that is not labeled, or without visualizing the vial or ampule it was immediately drawn from

Take Home Message:

No medication is given until Provider 2 has heard it, seen it, and authorized it — the cross-check comes first, every time.