POLICY: Only authorized personnel may administer medications in the Emergency Department.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. The following personnel are authorized to administer medications in the Emergency Department.
   a. Licensed physicians
   b. Medical students under supervision of physician staff only
   c. Registered nurses
   d. Nurse Practitioners
   e. Respiratory therapy technicians (Respiratory therapy technicians may, upon written order of a physician, administer certain agents by inhalation; e.g. oxygen, sodium chloride and distilled water.)
   f. Student nurse practitioners under supervision of their preceptor.

2. All authorized personnel will adhere to the pertinent medication policies as outlined in the following Hospital Administrative Nursing policies:
   a. #152 “Medication Administration”
   b. #159 “Reporting Adverse Drug Reactions”
   c. #A4-103 “Guidelines on Incident Reporting”

3. No controlled drugs or narcotics may be dispensed to patients as take-home doses. Controlled drugs stored in the Emergency Department are for in-hospital use only. It is a violation of Federal and State regulations for these drugs to be given to patients for use outside of the institution.

4. Patients who require immunizations in the Emergency Department will be advised to sit in the waiting room for 15 minutes following the immunization.
5. Patients who receive any injections, with the exception of immunization, will remain in the treatment area for 30 minutes following the injection.

6. Medications which are included in Emergency Department protocols do not require a physician’s order to administer.
   
   a. Asthma Protocol(s)
   b. Standing Antipyretic orders
   c. Standing orders in the AED

7. The following medications may not be drawn by MD. These must have a written order and must be prepared by a RN.
   
   ▪ Insulin
   ▪ Heparin
   ▪ Potassium formulation