

Acute Training Solutions

Recording & Report Writing - Recording scenario

Scenario 1

Saturday evening, you are on a late shift.

Mr Paul Jones, 68 years old is admitted with end stage Pancreatic cancer, he is extremely jaundiced and nauseous, and is in a lot of discomfort all of the time, exacerbated by movement. He is unable to eat anything, and can only tolerate sips of water. At home his pain was being managed with 60mg MST, but this has been insufficient for the last 36 hours.

He has been admitted for end of life symptom control, he had wanted to die at home, but the worsening of his symptoms and lack of control has made him change his mind.

He has been prescribed Diamorphine 300mg over 24 hours, and Cyclizine 150mg over 24 hours, sub cutaneously via a syringe driver. You and a colleague set up the syringe driver.

What would your documentation cover and where would you document your actions?

Scenario 2

Sunday morning, early shift.

You arrive at work to find that Mr Jones, passed away in the night. At handover you are informed that the police are involved as the night staff found the syringe had been removed from the driver and was empty. Initial probable cause of death is overdose of Diamorphine.

As you and your colleague were involved in setting up of the syringe driver, you are both asked to accompany a senior member of staff to separate rooms; you are not allowed to discuss the events of the previous evening with anyone. Once there you are asked to write a statement about the events surrounding the setting up of the driver. Particularly:..

- Was the prescription written correctly?
- Did you follow protocol in setting up the driver?
- What checks did you perform to ensure that the correct dose was given?
- Was the driver functioning when you left it?
- Was anyone else able to interfere with the syringe and or driver?

After you have written your statement you are asked to wait until an officer can come and go through this with you. In the meantime you are forbidden from talking to anyone else.

How can you prove that what you have written as a statement is true?

Are your records from the late shift on Saturday sufficient to prove that you followed the correct procedures?

These events are true and very scary, imagine how you would feel standing up in a court room and swearing on oath that what you said is true.

Would your documentation support you?