

UWHC Contrast Media Control Systems
(description of systems to assure compliance with JCAHO standards)
September 2005

Procurement & Inventory Control

The UWHC Pharmacy Department has reviewed and approved the process for outsourcing the procurement and recall of IV contrast media to SourceOne.

A. Formulary Decision & Contrast Media Procurement Process

- The same guidelines for obtaining admission of a drug to the UWHC formulary that are followed for all drugs are also followed for contrast media. All contrast agents must be approved by the P&T Committee before they may routinely be used at UWHC. Physicians or pharmacists interested in obtaining admission of a drug to the UWHC formulary are required to complete a Formulary Addition Request Form. Upon the receipt of this completed form, a pharmacist in the Center for Drug Policy is assigned to write a new drug evaluation and determine and discuss if the drug requested for UWHC formulary addition should be approved by the P&T Committee. *Please see Pharmacy Policy 11.11 (admitting a drug to the UWHC formulary) for more details.*
- Oral contrast media (gastrografin) is purchased and handled by the UWHC Pharmacy Department via the same procedures for all other medications.
- The procurement of barium sulfate and IV contrast media are outsourced to SourceOne (contracted distributor). A staff member from SourceOne orders and restocks these contrast agents in the Radiology Department two times a week. The ordering/restocking of the contrast agents is according to par levels established by the UWHC Radiology Department.

B. Contrast Media Recall Process

- The Pharmacy Department is responsible for managing the hospital's centralized policy on drug recalls to ensure prompt notification and effective resolution of FDA or manufacturer drug recalls, and this includes the removal of drugs from all patient care areas. A log in compilation of the drug recalls is kept up to date by the Pharmacy Purchasing Agent. *Please see Pharmacy Policy 9.6 (Medication Recalls) for more details.*
- The Radiology Department coordinates the recall of IV contrast media in conjunction with their vendor (SourceOne). If a recalled product was purchased by the Radiology Department, the vendor will contact the Radiology to check the stock and to discontinue using it. If the Radiology Department does have the recalled product in stock, it will be retrieved by the vendor and replaced. If patient contact is required, the communication to patients is coordinated by the Radiology Department with the medical staff responsible for the patients' care during the procedure.

Safe Administration of Contrast Media to Patients in Radiology

- Contrast media administered during a procedure is carried out via an approved medical staff protocol. The licensed independent practitioner (LIP; e.g., radiologist) assesses the patient's need for the procedure and then writes an order to follow protocol "X". Upon the receipt of the order, a Radiology Technologist then pulls the protocol and follows it step-by-step. Any deviations or changes from the protocol are made under the direction of the LIP.
- All protocols (physician's orders) have been reviewed and approved by the P&T Committee. These protocols are reviewed annually, with a pharmacist involved in the review process.
- All phases of the medication use process (prescribing, dispensing and administration of the medication) are under the constant supervision of a physician, thus pharmacists do not review patient-specific orders prior to contrast media administration. However, all protocols for administration are reviewed by pharmacists via the P&T Committee approval process.