Drawing Up Medications

(0:16 - 0:30)

Hello everybody, I am Mike from Surge Tech Academy and today I'm going to demonstrate how to draw up medications. Now there are two ways we can do this. The first way is to draw up the medication from a vial held by the circulator.

(0:30 - 0:47)

The second way is for us to draw up the medication we have received onto the sterile field. One of the major, if not the key, concepts of medications is that we need to know and remember the six rights of medications. Some experts have added two more to make it the eight rights of medications.

(0:48 - 0:54)

Some say the five rights. Our textbook says six. So for this demonstration, I'm going to stick with the six.

(0:54 - 1:13)

And this six are the right patient, the right medication, the right dose, the right route, right time and right documentation. For us, it means labelling. Now the right patient is determined during the timeout and also verifying the patient allergies is also important at this time.

(1:13 - 1:35)

The right route and the right time is decided by the surgeon. So first, make sure we have the correct supplies, we have looked at the surgeon's preference card or the plan of care and have determined that the surgeon wants 10 millilitres of 0.9% normal saline. And wouldn't you know it, as chance would have it, that's all we have in the lab.

(1:35 - 1:54)

So first way we're going to draw up the medication is from a vial held by the circulator. The circulator presents the medication to us by showing us the medication label and announcing the medication and the dosage. 0.9% sodium chloride, expiration date August 2018.

(1:55 - 2:15)

Okay, 0.9% sodium chloride, expiration date August of 2018. I'm going to pull back 10 millilitres of air, the circulator is going to hold it straight up and down. I'm going to inject all the air in the vial, pull down and get the medication.

(2:17 - 2:41)

I go slow because I think it adds less air bubbles and I also draw up a little more if I can than the 10 because inevitably I always lose half a CC when I'm getting out all the air bubbles. So next we're going to use the scoop method. So with no hands, I'm going to scoop the needle on the cap onto the needle, make a clip.

(2:41 - 3:16)

I'm going to make sure that all the air bubbles are out and I'm going to make sure that I have 10 millilitres of 0.9% normal saline inside the syringe. At this point I'm going to go ahead and label my syringe, expiration date August of 2018. And there you have it, a properly labelled syringe.

(3:17 - 3:35)

Also make sure that interoperatively, remember to let your surgeon know what you're passing them when you give them the medication for the first time. Next let's go up and draw a medication that's been received onto the sterile field. First, the circulator has shown you the vial and has announced the medication like they did before.

(3:35 - 3:52)

Then they would either sterilely draw the medication and inject it into the syringe or they would take off the top of the vial and pour it into the med cup. So very similar process. I'm just going to take a syringe with no needle, stick it into the medication and draw it up.

(3:55 - 4:12)

Again I go slow and drop a little more, get all the air bubbles out. Make sure that I have 10. Now again, don't forget to get the air bubbles out, put the correct amount into the syringe and once again label the medication.

(4:29 - 4:49)

Now since I do have some medication left in the med cup, I also labelled the med cup and I've already done this and it just reads just like everything else, 0.9% sodium chloride, 8 of 2018. And that's it. Drawing up medications in a vial held by the circulator and drawing up medications received onto your sterile field.

(4:50 - 5:00)

So I'm Mike from SIRS-TEC Academy wishing you a great day in surgery and reminding you to be a superstar in your OR.