



*Skill Checklists to Accompany Taylor's Clinical Nursing Skills:
A Nursing Process Approach, 2nd Edition
Wolters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins*

Name: _____ Date: _____

Unit: _____ Position: _____

Instructor/Evaluator: _____ Position: _____

		Mixing Medications From Two Vials in One Syringe	
Met	Unmet	Goal: The accurate withdrawal of the medication into a syringe in a sterile manner with the proper dose prepared.	Comments
_____	_____	1. Gather equipment. Check medication order against the original physician's order according to agency policy.	
_____	_____	2. Know the actions, special nursing considerations, safe dose ranges, purpose of administration, and adverse effects of the medications to be administered. Consider the appropriateness of the medication for this resident.	
_____	_____	3. Perform hand hygiene.	
_____	_____	4. Move the medication cart to the outside of the resident's room or prepare for administration in the medication area.	
_____	_____	5. Unlock the medication cart or drawer.	
_____	_____	6. Prepare medications for one resident at a time.	
_____	_____	7. Read the MAR and select the proper medications from the resident's medication drawer or unit stock.	
_____	_____	8. Compare the labels with the MAR. Check expiration dates and perform calculations, if necessary.	
_____	_____	9. If necessary, remove the cap that protects the rubber stopper on each vial.	
_____	_____	10. If insulin is a suspension (e.g. NPH, Lente), roll and agitate the vial to mix it well.	
_____	_____	11. Cleanse the rubber tops with antimicrobial swabs.	
_____	_____	12. Remove cap from needle by pulling it straight off. Touch the plunger at the knob only. Draw back an amount of air into the syringe that is equal to the dose of modified insulin (e.g. NPH) to be withdrawn.	
_____	_____	13. Hold the modified vial on a flat surface. Pierce the rubber stopper in the center with the needle tip and inject the measured air into the space above the solution. Do not inject air into the solution. Withdraw the needle.	
_____	_____	14. Draw back an amount of air into the syringe that is equal to the dose of unmodified insulin (e.g. Regular) to be withdrawn.	
_____	_____	15. Hold the unmodified vial on a flat surface. Pierce the rubber stopper in the center with the needle tip and inject the measured air into the space above the solution. Do not inject air into the solution. Keep the needle in the vial.	

Met	Unmet	Mixing Medications From Two Vials in One Syringe (Continued)	
			Comments
_____	_____	16. Invert vial of unmodified insulin. Hold the vial in one hand and use the other to withdraw the medication. Touch the plunger at the knob only. Draw up the prescribed amount of medication while holding the syringe at eye level and vertically. Turn the vial over and then remove needle from vial.	
_____	_____	17. Check that there are no air bubbles in the syringe.	
_____	_____	18. Check the amount of medication in the syringe with the medication dose and discard any surplus.	
_____	_____	19. Recheck the vial label with the MAR.	
_____	_____	20. Calculate the endpoint on the syringe for the combined insulin amount by adding the number of units for each dose together.	
_____	_____	21. Insert the needle into the modified vial and invert it, taking care not to push the plunger and inject medication from the syringe into the vial. Invert vial of modified insulin. Hold the vial in one hand and use the other to withdraw the medication. Touch the plunger at the knob only. Draw up the prescribed amount of medication while holding the syringe at eye level and vertically. Take care to only withdraw the prescribed amount. Turn the vial over and then remove needle from vial. Carefully recap the needle. Carefully replace the cap over the needle.	
_____	_____	22. Check the amount of medication in the syringe with the medication dose.	
_____	_____	23. Recheck the vial label with the MAR.	
_____	_____	24. Label the vials with the date and time opened, and store the vials containing the remaining medication according to agency policy.	
_____	_____	25. Lock medication cart before leaving it.	
_____	_____	26. Perform hand hygiene.	
_____	_____	27. Proceed with administration, based on prescribed route.	