

Heparin preparation

Does Heparin preparation and administration need double witness (two nurses)?

The answers have been levelled between yes and no. There has been a short “yes” from the UK.

Portugal says it isn't mandatory but nevertheless they have two nurses preparing Heparin. Italy doesn't have guidelines for double checking. One has two nurses in the room with only one preparing the Heparin. The nurse who performs the therapy is responsible – a sense of trust and collaboration is necessary.

Germany hasn't guidelines for double witness, but very strict hygiene rules for the preparation. There are ready made syringes available but due to costs not used very often. In Israel there is a policy in place for two nurses checking the Heparin preparation. It is administered by one nurse.

And Canada told us that it needs only one nurse to sign Heparin out and administer it via Artis Gambro – but that two nurses are necessary for subcutaneous doses. They are currently discussing these inconsistencies to align the practices.

Just come and join us on RenalPro.

Yours

Sabine&Chava