

*Skill Checklists for Taylor's Clinical Nursing Skills.  
A Nursing Process Approach, 5th edition*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor/Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

			SKILL 5-5		
			<b>Mixing Medications From Two Vials in One Syringe</b>		
Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Practice	<p><b>Goal:</b> The accurate withdrawal of the medication into a syringe in a sterile manner; the medication is free from contamination; and the proper dose is prepared.</p>		Comments
_____	_____	_____	1. Gather equipment. Check medication order against the original order in the medical record, according to facility 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 patient.		
_____	_____	_____	3. Perform hand hygiene.		
_____	_____	_____	4. Move the medication supply system to the outside of the patient's room or prepare for administration at the medication supply system in the medication area. Alternatively, access the medication administration supply system at or inside the patient's room.		
_____	_____	_____	5. Unlock the medication supply system or drawer. Enter pass code and scan employee identification, if required.		
_____	_____	_____	6. <i>Prepare medications for one patient at a time.</i>		
_____	_____	_____	7. Read the eMAR/MAR and select the proper medications from the medication supply system or the patient's medication drawer.		
_____	_____	_____	8. Compare the labels with the eMAR/MAR. Check expiration dates and perform dosage calculations, if necessary. Scan the bar code on the package, if required.		
_____	_____	_____	9. If necessary, remove the cap that protects the self-sealing stopper on each vial.		
_____	_____	_____	10. <i>If medication is a suspension (e.g., a modified insulin, such as NPH insulin), roll and agitate the vial to mix it well.</i>		
_____	_____	_____	11. <i>Scrub the self-sealing stopper top with the antimicrobial swab and allow to dry.</i>		
_____	_____	_____	12. Remove cap from needle by pulling it straight off. Touch the plunger only at the knob. Draw back an amount of air into the syringe that is equal to the dose of modified insulin to be withdrawn.		
_____	_____	_____	13. Hold the modified vial on a flat surface. Pierce the self-sealing 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.		

			SKILL 5-5	
			<b>Mixing Medications From Two Vials in One Syringe (Continued)</b>	
Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Practice	Comments	
—	—	—	14. Draw back an amount of air into the syringe that is equal to the dose of unmodified insulin to be withdrawn.	
—	—	—	15. Hold the unmodified vial on a flat surface. Pierce the self-sealing 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.	
—	—	—	16. Invert the vial of unmodified insulin. Hold the vial in one hand and use the other to withdraw the medication. <i>Touch the plunger only at the knob. Draw up the prescribed amount of medication while holding the syringe at eye level and vertically.</i> Turn the vial over and then remove the needle from the vial.	
—	—	—	17. Check that there are no air bubbles in the syringe.	
—	—	—	18. <i>Check the amount of medication in the syringe with the medication dose and discard any surplus.</i>	
—	—	—	19. <i>Recheck the vial label with the eMAR/MAR.</i>	
—	—	—	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. <i>Touch the plunger only at the knob. Draw up the prescribed amount of medication while holding the syringe at eye level and vertically. Take care to withdraw only the prescribed amount.</i> Turn the vial over and then remove the needle from the vial. Carefully recap the needle. Carefully replace the cap over the needle.	
—	—	—	22. <i>Check the amount of medication in the syringe with the medication dose.</i>	
—	—	—	23. <i>Depending on facility policy, the third check of the label may occur at this point. If so, recheck the label with the MAR before taking the medications to the patient. However, many facilities require the third check to occur at the bedside, after identifying the patient.</i>	
—	—	—	24. <i>Label the vials with the date and time opened and beyond-use date, and store the vials containing the remaining medication, according to facility policy.</i>	
—	—	—	25. <i>Lock the medication supply system before leaving it.</i>	
—	—	—	26. Perform hand hygiene.	
—	—	—	27. Proceed with administration, based on prescribed route.	