TITLE: Interchange of Aminoglycosides by a Clinical Pharmacist

Purpose: To establish a protocol for the interchange of aminoglycosides according to the results of culture and sensitivity reports to assure the most sensitive aminoglycoside is prescribed.

Policy No.: C-PCS-06-028

Developed Date: 
Review Date: 8/20
Revised Date: 
Review Responsibility: CNO; Nursing Leadership, Director of Pharmacy; Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

Reference Standards: MM 05.01.01

Policy:

The clinical pharmacist may interchange aminoglycosides (gentamicin, tobramycin, and amikacin) according to the patient’s culture and sensitivity results by entering or writing a per policy order from the physician.

1. When the following criteria are met, the clinical pharmacist may interchange aminoglycosides so that the most sensitive aminoglycoside is administered to the patient.

   ♦ The patient is currently receiving an aminoglycoside.
   ♦ The culture and sensitivity results show a difference in the sensitivities (minimal inhibitory concentration, i.e., MIC) for aminoglycosides.
   ♦ The patient is not currently receiving the most sensitive aminoglycoside.

2. The clinical pharmacist may enter a per policy order from the physician to change the prescribed aminoglycoside to the most sensitive aminoglycoside.

3. The physician will sign the per policy order in the patient’s medical record within forty-eight hours.

4. A physician may enter “Dispense as Written” to override the aminoglycoside interchange.