

Bullet Point Nursing

Nursing fundamentals – Standing orders

Disclaimer: These notes are designed to provide the key points of each topic and should not be used as a complete source for all necessary information. Every effort is made to ensure this content is up to date and accurate at the time of writing. No liability is assumed for the content or its relation to current standards and practices. This should not replace comprehensive nursing educational resources.

Standing order:

- Used to allow a nurse to provide care that would otherwise be outside their scope of practice
- Have specific designation for where they can be used
 - May be specific to a unit or nurse's level of training
- Oxygen is a common example
- Higher acuity units have more extensive standing orders

Oxygen example:

- Oxygen may be administered for hypoxia defined as a pulse ox at or below 93%

Acetaminophen example:

- Acetaminophen 650mg PO may be administered PRN for pain 1/10 up to and including 4/10
- This can be repeated every 4 hours