Clinical Learning Guide
Administration of Subcutaneous Injections

STEP/TASK	AP	IP	NP
Equipment needed: • Prescribed medication • Sterile syringes and needles • Sterile alcohol swabs. • Dry cotton-wool ball			
Getting ready			
1. Gather necessary equipment.			
2. Introduce yourself to the patient, tell the patient what is going to be done.			
3. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water and dry with a clean dry cloth (or air dry).			
procedure			
1. Draw up the prescribed medication for injection into the syringe: • By inserting the needle tip until it touches the bottom of the bottle or vial containing the medication for injection. • Then pull the plunger of the syringe to draw up the volume of medication required. • Withdraw the needle and syringe from the bottle or vial and expel air bubbles, if present. • Recap the needle.			
2. Check that the drug and dose are correct.			
3. Provide for privacy; position and drape (cover) patient.			
4. Select appropriate injection site.			
5. Cleanse injection site with alcohol swab starting at the center moving outward in a circular motion.			
6. Remove needle cover.			
7. With nondominant hand, grasp skin around site of injection firmly to elevate subcutaneous tissue forming a 1" (inch) fat fold.			
8. Inform patient that he will feel a prick as needle is inserted.			
9. Pinch the skin then insert the needle less than 45 degrees			
10. When needle is inserted move non-dominant hand to barrel of syringe and dominant hand to plunger and Inject medication.			
11. Quickly remove needle, cover injection site with alcohol swab.			
12. Check site for bleeding and apply Band-Aid if necessary.			
Post procedure tasks			
1. Dispose the needle and syringe into the proper receptacle, do not recap the used needle.			
2. Place any blood-contaminated items (cotton-wool balls) in a plastic bag or leak-proof, covered waste container.			
3. Wash hands with soap and water and dry with a clean dry cloth.			
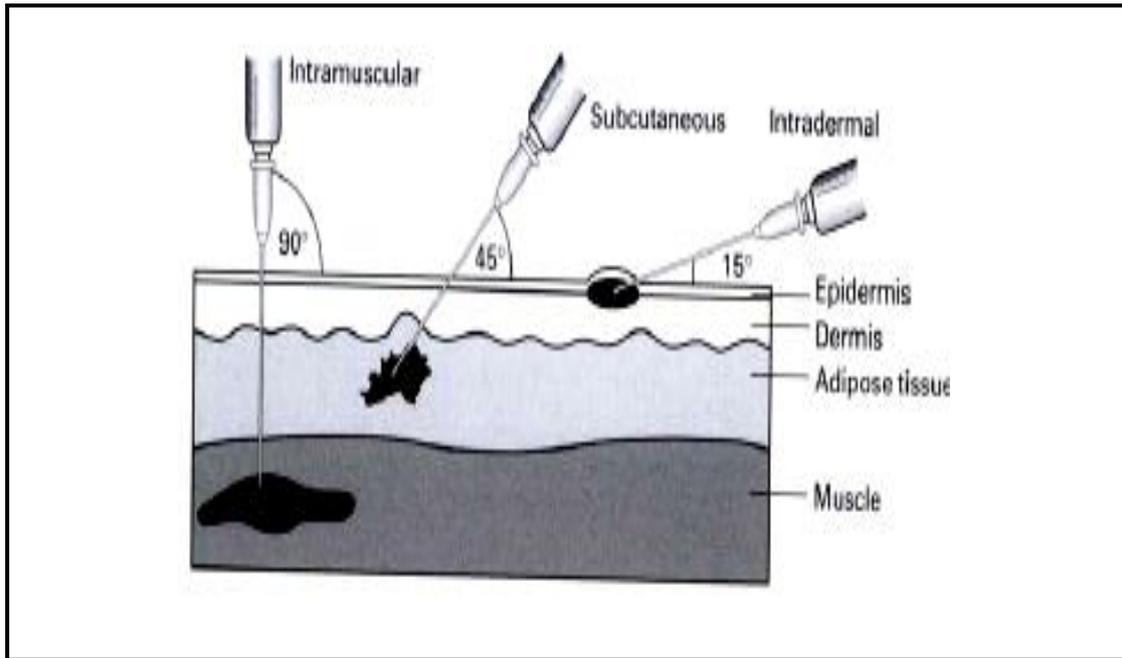
AP = Adequately Performed
IP = Inadequately Performed
NP = Not Performed