



**COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING**

**Mangum Regional Medical Center**

TITLE		POLICY	
<b>Iontophoresis</b>		<b>815</b>	
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE	
<b>Rehabilitation</b>			
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE		
<b>Rehabilitation Services</b>			

**SCOPE:** All professional rehabilitation staff utilizing iontophoresis for patient care at Mangum Regional Medical Center.

**PURPOSE:** To ensure that all iontophoresis treatments are administered safely and effectively within established guidelines.

**DEFINITION:** Iontophoresis is a therapeutic modality used to introduce medications into the skin and mucous membranes of the body using direct current to decrease inflammation and pain in localized areas. The principle on which it is based is the repulsion of ions by the similarly charged electrode.

**POLICY:** Physician order is received for Iontophoresis, or order states therapist to evaluate and treat as indicated. Initial evaluation must be certified prior to initiation.

- If not specified, drug to be administered must be approved and written order obtained.

Indications:

- An Iontophoresis drug delivery system is used to apply ant-inflammatory or analgesic drugs to localized areas of inflammation and pain.

Contraindications:

- Patients who are electrically sensitive, have electrically sensitive support systems (i.e. pacemaker).
- Allergic reactions to drugs being administered.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Obtain prescribed medication.
2. There are several types of units, which perform this desired function of iontophoresis.
  - a. Refer to use of medication policy for administration
  - b. Follow procedure outlined in the manufacturer's/operator manual depending on the unit to be used.
3. At the completion of the treatment:

- a. Note any discoloration or irritation of the skin beneath the electrodes.
- b. Discard the electrodes.
- c. If applicable, store medication as per Department Policy, "Use of Medication."

**REVISIONS/UPDATES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Brief Description of Revision/Change</b>