### Issue/Process: Order Management – Changes in IV Orders

**Issue/Background:** Order Management – Changes in Orders

As with many other processes, planning for Computerized Physician Order Entry has revealed some process issues in reordering IVs. For example, if an IV order D5.45NSS with 10meq KCL at 125 cc/hr is rewritten as D5.45NSS at 100 cc/hr – there is no order to DC the original IV and the patient orders would indicate orders for two IVs. Clearly, this is not acceptable. In the past, these issues were resolved by unit secretaries, nurses and pharmacy, sometimes but not always requiring a phone call to the physician. With CPOE, we need to be clear exactly how we want the system to behave. Also, rate changes for IVs cannot be made in the order detail screen or it invalidates the barcode on the IV bags causing delays in administration and the need for Pharmacy to run new labels to the floor for every rate change! This is a known issue at Siemens and they are working on it.

### Recommendations

- When the actual fluids are changed, the previous orders will be discontinued by the physician/prescriber, rather than it being assumed or implied by writing a new order. This is required to assure patient safety and regulatory compliance. If the order is not discontinued under these circumstances, a call will be placed to the physician for clarification.

- When only the IV rate is changed, rate adjustments will be done as a communication order to Pharmacy, not as an order modification. This is exactly the opposite of all other order modifications and will require physician, nursing and pharmacy education. If a physician modifies an order it discontinues all of the current IV labels necessitating significant rework by Pharmacy and Nursing. The importance of avoiding this will be emphasized in physician education and a warning banner will be placed on the IV order detail screen.

### Source of Recommendations

- Pharmacy staff
- Medical Directors of Operations

### Response/Comments:

(Please reply “Approve”/“Schedule Conference Call” /“Red Flag” using voting buttons)