

Introduction to IV Bolus Medication Administration Quiz - Answer Key

1. Why are IV boluses considered one of the most dangerous routes?
 - a. The medications go through the arteries
 - b. There is no time to correct errors once administered**
 - c. It is not done with a pump
 - d. All bolus doses need to be calculated by the nurse

The medication is directly delivered into the veins and then circulated by the heart. Boluses are via IV push and not all doses are calculated by nurses.
2. Which of the following is a potential complication of IV boluses?
 - a. Speed shock
 - b. Pain
 - c. Allergic reaction
 - d. All of the above**

Speed shock, pain and allergic reactions are all potential complications.
3. Why is saline used to flush before and after the medication?
 - a. Patients are not allergic to saline
 - b. Saline reduces the pain of the medication
 - c. It is used to ensure patency of the lock**
 - d. It helps the medication be absorbed

Saline is used prior to the medication to verify patency and after to ensure the medication is not within the lock.
4. When flushing an IV prior to medication administration, what should the nurse do if swelling occurs at the site?
 - a. Continue to flush as this is normal
 - b. Apply ice
 - c. Stop flushing and inspect for infiltration**
 - d. Wait 2 minutes and flush slowly

Swelling indicates that the fluid is entering the tissue and not the vein. Flushing should be stopped and if infiltrated, the IV should be replaced.
5. It is important to teach patients that effects of IV bolus medications occur over what time period?
 - a. Almost immediately**
 - b. From 5-10 minutes
 - c. About 15 minutes
 - d. In 30 minutes

Since the medication is delivered directly into the bloodstream, effects are faster than other routes.