TITLE: INPATIENT PEDIATRIC ENOXAPARIN DISPENSING POLICY

PURPOSE: To provide a standard procedure for dispensing enoxaparin for pediatric patients.

POLICY STATEMENT: In order to reduce the likelihood of patient harm associated with Anticoagulation therapy, the Inpatient Pharmacy Department and the Anticoagulation Safety Committee have reviewed the current process of dispensing pediatric doses of enoxaparin. A risk assessment was performed to identify opportunities to decrease the chance of a medication error while abiding by the Joint Commission’s recommendations on unit-dose dispensing. The following dose dispensing policy has been created for Pediatric patients prescribed enoxaparin (treatment and prophylaxis).

POLICY ELABORATION:

1. This policy applies to enoxaparin doses dispensed for patients in the NICU and pediatric hospital units.
2. This policy applies to both treatment and prophylaxis enoxaparin doses in the pediatric population.
3. Enoxaparin doses < 20 mg will be dispensed using the enoxaparin pediatric dilution (20mg/mL). See Attachment 1.
   - The enoxaparin pediatric dilution (20mg/mL) order in Sunrise has been modified to include doses < 20 mg. The Sunrise order is titled “Enoxaparin Inj. 20mg/mL Syringe for doses < 20mg (PEDI).”
   - Enoxaparin doses < 20 mg will be prepared in the Inpatient Pharmacy IV Lab according to USP 797 guidelines.
   - Enoxaparin doses < 20mg will be dispensed from Pharmacy in a TB syringe with 27G x ½” needle.
4. Enoxaparin doses of exactly 30mg or 40mg will be dispensed using the 30mg and 40mg pre-filled syringes respectively.
5. For all other doses (20mg or greater), the pre-filled graduated syringes will be dispensed using the smallest syringe needed to administer the correct dose.
   - Enoxaparin doses will be rounded according to the Pediatric Enoxaparin Pediatric Dosing and Monitoring Protocol posted on the Clinical Pathways and Guidelines.
   - Sunrise will default to correct syringe size based on patient’s weight in Sunrise. Weight should be verified to be current by pharmacist verifying order in Sunrise.

6. Enoxaparin will only be administered by nurses who are trained in the appropriate administration of enoxaparin. Since enoxaparin is a High Alert Medication, the standard double-check policy will be followed prior to administration to the patient. See Pediatric Medication Management Guidelines Standard Number: 12.0100.

7. The Enoxaparin Pediatric Dosing and Monitoring Protocol posted on the Clinical Pathways and Guidelines includes more detailed information on dosing and monitoring.