

SOP Template: Drug Interaction and Contraindication Review Steps

This SOP details the **drug interaction and contraindication review steps**, including patient medication history assessment, identification of potential drug interactions, evaluation of contraindications based on patient health conditions, consultation with healthcare providers, documentation procedures, and communication of findings to the patient. The goal is to ensure safe medication use by preventing adverse drug interactions and contraindications through systematic review and analysis.

1. Purpose

To establish a standardized procedure for reviewing drug interactions and contraindications to promote safe and effective medication use.

2. Scope

This SOP applies to all healthcare professionals involved in the prescription, dispensing, and monitoring of medications.

3. Responsibilities

- Pharmacists: Lead the review process and communicate findings.
- Prescribers: Collaborate in review and make necessary medication adjustments.
- Nurses/Other Healthcare Staff: Assist in data gathering and communication with patients.

4. Procedure

- 1. Patient Medication History Assessment**
 - Obtain a comprehensive and up-to-date list of the patient's current and past medications, including prescription, OTC, herbal, and dietary supplements.
 - Gather information on medication dosages, frequency, duration, and last administration.
- 2. Identification of Potential Drug Interactions**
 - Use clinical decision support tools or validated drug interaction checkers to screen for potential interactions.
 - Review medication combinations for pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic interactions.
 - Classify identified interactions by severity (e.g., minor, moderate, severe).
- 3. Evaluation of Contraindications Based on Patient Health Conditions**
 - Review patient's diagnoses, allergies, comorbidities, lab results, and relevant clinical data.
 - Assess each medication for contraindications with patient's health status (e.g., renal/hepatic dysfunction, pregnancy, allergies).
- 4. Consultation with Healthcare Providers**
 - Discuss identified interactions or contraindications with the prescriber and/or interdisciplinary team.
 - Collaborate to adjust therapy if needed (e.g., alternative medications, dose adjustments).
- 5. Documentation Procedures**
 - Document findings, actions, and communications related to interactions or contraindications in the appropriate clinical system.
 - Record changes made and rationales for therapy adjustments.
- 6. Communication of Findings to the Patient**
 - Clearly explain identified drug interactions or contraindications to the patient.
 - Provide recommendations, warnings, and educate on signs and symptoms of adverse events.
 - Document patient education in the medical record.

5. Documentation

Step	Required Documentation
Medication History Assessment	Updated medication reconciliation record
Interaction/Contraindication Review	Annotation in patient health record and screening tool report
Provider Consultation	Documented communication and resulting decisions
Patient Communication	Patient educational documentation and acknowledgement

6. References

- Clinical Pharmacology Drug Interaction Checker
- Lexicomp Online
- FDA Medication Guides
- Institutional Policies and Clinical Guidelines

7. Review and Update

This SOP will be reviewed annually or upon significant changes to medication safety protocols or regulatory requirements.