

Standard on the Administration of Medication and Drugs

Standard 3: All medication and drugs are administered in a safe and appropriate manner.

Legislative Authority

Homes for Special Care Regulations, sections 42, 43(2) (3):

4.2.1 *The administrator of the home shall be responsible for ensuring that all medications are properly administered to residents in the home.*

(2) *No person shall administer any drug to a resident of a home for special care unless he has been designated by the administrator as a person who is competent to do so.*

(3) *In those homes where there is a director of nursing, the administrator shall consult with that director for the purpose of carrying out his responsibilities pursuant to subsection (1) and subsection (2).*

43(2) *In homes licensed by the Minister of Community Services, each medication received by a resident must be reviewed based on the resident's individual needs as assessed and recommended by a qualified medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or pharmacist.*

(3) *The administrator of a home for special care is responsible for ensuring that review required under this Section is completed and shall consult regularly about the resident continuing the medication and the resident's use of the medication with any qualified medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or pharmacist involved in the review.*

Definitions

Medication and Drugs – Prescription and non-prescription drugs and treatments prescribed for an individual's use by a physician, nurse practitioner, pharmacist, optometrist or dentist with legal authority to prescribe.

Outcomes

- 3.1** There are written policies and procedures for the management, documentation, administration, review and safe disposal of resident medication.
- 3.2** Staff working in the home shall be trained in the safe administration of medication prior to administering any medications. The minimum training requirement for staff is "Medication Awareness" in accordance with DSP Core Training requirements.
- 3.3** Each resident has an individual medication administration record (MAR) that includes:
 - resident's name, address, date of birth, gender, diagnosis, food and drug allergies/sensitivities, weight and name(s) of primary physician(s)
 - a list of the names of all current medications and prescribed dosage
 - the manner of administration and administration schedule
 - start date of the medication
 - date medication discontinued or changed
 - a place for staff to verify by signature or initials that they have administered the medication.

- 3.4** The MAR will represent medication administration for each resident for a calendar month.
- 3.5** The MAR for each resident will be signed by the staff who administered the medication.
- 3.6** Medication received from a pharmacy will be reviewed against the MAR, by receiving staff working in the home, for accuracy. A record of these reviews will be maintained and signed off by the staff that completed the review.
- 3.7** Medications received by residents are reviewed based on the assessment and recommendations of a qualified medical practitioner. A record of medication review recommendations and follow-up is maintained on the resident's file.