

USE OF PATIENT'S OWN MEDICATIONS

Medications brought into the hospital by the patient are not to be administered unless:

1. The equivalent formulary drug is not acceptable
2. The medication cannot be purchased in an adequate time
3. An order has been written by the attending physician

Medications brought into the hospital by the patient which cannot be absolutely identified by the Department of Pharmacy are not be administered to the patient.

Unidentifiable medications will be returned to the ward with a label stating that pharmacy was unable to make a positive identification of the contents.

A pharmacist will contact the prescribing physician to determine if a formulary drug is acceptable. If the non-formulary drug is considered essential, the medication will be obtained for this particular patient only.

Excerpts from the C&W Policy: Patient's Own Medications. Refer to the complete policy for additional information, definitions and additional requirements
Last update: September 2020

PASS MEDICATIONS

- A prescriber's order is required to authorize a leave of absence
- If a medication dose is scheduled to coincide with departure or return times, the medication is to be administered on site
- For a leave of less than 24 hours, the nurse will dispense the medications
- For a leave between 24 to 96 hours, Pharmacy will provide the medications. The prescriber's order authorizing the leave of absence must specify the length of time the patient will be absent from the hospital and the order must be received by Pharmacy 24 hours in advance of the planned leave to allow adequate time for processing the request
- The nurse or pharmacist who dispenses prescription opioids to patients granted temporary leave from the hospital will apply a standard warning label to the drug package and provide a patient information handout as per Health Canada regulation for prescription opioids

Excerpts from the C&W Procedure: Dispensing Medications to Patients Granted Temporary Leave of Absence from Hospital (Pass Meds). Refer to the complete procedure for additional information, definitions and additional requirements
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