

## IREDELL HEALTH SYSTEM

| <b>Inspections: Medication Areas (Floor Stock)</b>                   |  |
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| Approved by:<br>Amy Wingler, CPhT<br>Randi Raynor, PharmD, MBA, BCPS | Last Revised/Reviewed Date:<br>06/2022 |
| P&T Committee  | Date: 06/2022                          |

### **Policy**

The Director of Pharmacy or qualified designee shall conduct monthly inspections of all medication areas (e.g., nursing-care units, emergency drug containers, and other areas where drugs are dispensed, administered, or stored).

### **Areas to Inspect**

Inspections shall include the main pharmacy, all nursing care units, drug storage units, emergency boxes and emergency carts, and all other areas of the facility where drugs are dispensed, administered or stored (including drugs in areas that do not obtain their stocks from the pharmacy).

### **Documentation of Inspections**

Inspections shall be documented and inspection records shall be retained by the pharmacy.

### **Resolution of Deficiencies or Problems**

Corrective action shall be taken to resolve deficiencies. Immediate action will be taken when possible.

### **What to Inspect**

As appropriate, inspections shall verify:

- Antiseptics, other drugs for external use, and disinfectants are stored separately from internal and injectable drugs.
- Drugs requiring special storage conditions to assure stability are so stored.
- Biologicals and other thermolabile drugs are stored in a refrigerator (or a separate compartment within a refrigerator) that is capable of maintaining the necessary temperature.
- Biologicals and other thermolabile drugs that require freezing are stored in a freezer (or a separate freezer compartment within a refrigerator) that is capable of maintaining the necessary temperature.
- All drugs are stored in accordance with current standards (e.g., USP/NF) to maintain their integrity, stability, and effectiveness.
- Flammable substances are stored properly.
- Outdated or otherwise unusable drugs are identified, removed from stock, and stored to prevent their distribution and administration.
- Drugs are stored securely.
- Distribution and administration of controlled drugs are adequately documented in accordance with law by the pharmacy, nursing service, and other involved services or personnel. Controlled drugs are used in accordance with federal law and the laws and regulations of this state.

- Any investigational drugs in use are properly stored, distributed, and controlled.
- Emergency drugs, as approved by the medical staff, are sealed and intact and in adequate and proper supply within the pharmacy and in designated areas.
- The metric system is in use for measuring drugs.
- All references and information supplied by the pharmacy are displayed or available.

### **Inspections of Refrigerators and Freezers**

Refrigerators and freezers shall be included in the routine inspections. Refrigerator and freezer inspections shall include:

- Expired and unusable drugs (e.g., unlabeled or mislabeled drugs).
- Discontinued drugs.
- Cleanliness.
- Organization.
- Presence of a thermometer or monitoring device.
- Food storage.
- Infection control hazards.
- Safety hazards.

INITIAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/1985

DATES REVISIONS EFFECTIVE: 10/2010, 08/2022

DATES REVIEWED (no changes):