

JUVENILE COURT HEALTH SERVICES

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Subject: MEDICATION SERVICES		Original Issue Date: 12/31/07	Policy # D-101
		Supersedes: 5/21/2022	Effective Date: 3/25/2022
Departments Consulted:	Approved By: (Signature on File) Health Services Administrator (Signature on File) Nursing Director	Approved by: (Signature on File) Medical Director	

PURPOSE

To describe how patient medication orders are clinically appropriate and medications are provided in a timely, safe, and sufficient manner.

POLICY

Medications, both prescription and nonprescription, are provided to youth by physician/dentist prescription or according to existing nursing procedures and in a manner that is consistent with good clinical care practice.

PROCEDURE

- Prescription medications are administered or delivered to the youth only upon the order of a physician or dentist.
- Nonprescription medications are administered or delivered to the youth only upon order of a physician or dentist or as a result of invocation of a standardized nursing procedure.
- Per Probation Department policy, no medications are allowed to be kept by the youth. If youth require medications to be kept upon their person, on a case-by-case basis, a plan should be made with Probation addressing the individual youth's needs.
- Psychotropic medications are generally prescribed only by Juvenile Justice Mental Health Programs (JJMHP) psychiatrists in response to clinical diagnoses. Psychotropic medications are never prescribed for disciplinary purposes.
- Psychotropic medications are prescribed only upon petition to the court for authorization using the Psychotropic Medication Authorization (PMA) application. The PMA is scanned by the JJMHP department to demonstrate that authorization has been applied for.
- Medications are prescribed and used only when clinically indicated.
- Medication errors are to be reported according to the existing departmental policies and procedures.

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- Youth entering the facility on prescription medications may continue to receive the medications or clinically acceptable alternatives, as indicated, in a timely manner (once ordered by a JCHS or JJMHP physician). Except in cases where the medication is urgently needed and not available in the JCHS Pharmacy, only medications dispensed by the JCHS Pharmacy will be used to continue treatment.
- When a youth enters a facility on a prescription medication that must be immediately continued and is not available in the JCHS Pharmacy, then the facility must notify the Pharmacy for verification of the content before they can be administered. The medication can either be sent to the Pharmacy for verification or verified at the facility by a JCHS Pharmacist or Physician. If an admission occurs after Pharmacy operating hours, Nursing staff should consult a physician (either on-site or on-call) to discuss whether the medication brought from home needs to be administered before Pharmacy staff are available to verify it. The physician must employ due diligence to verify the type of medication and appropriate instructions for administration. All related communication between JCHS staff, the youth's parent or guardian, and/or the original prescribing provider must be documented in PEMRS.
- JCHS Pharmacy Procedure manual may be referenced for further clarification of pharmacy practices.

AUTHORITY

California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1438
California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Article 8, Section 1439

REFERENCE

NCCHC Standard Y-D-01 and Y-D-02
JCHS Pharmacy Procedure Manual

REVIEW DATES

July 6, 2011; February 7, 2013; June 1, 2018; May 21, 2021; March 25, 2022

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