

LAC+ USC MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING SERVICES POLICY

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Subject: BLACK BOX WARNING MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION		Original Issue Date: 09/08	Policy # 909
		Supersedes: 05/18	Effective Date: 03/22
Departments Consulted: Pharmacy	Reviewed & Approved by: Professional Practice Committee Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Nurse Executive Committee Attending Staff Association Executive Committee	Approved by: (Signature on File) Nancy Blake Chief Nursing Officer	

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the safe and effective administration of medication identified with a Black Box Warning (BBW). A BBW is the strongest medication warning issued by the Food and Drug Administration.

POLICY

A BBW is given when a medication carries the risk of serious and life-threatening adverse effects. The County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services has identified high priority BBW medications. Additional recommendations of actions will be made by LAC+ USC Pharmacy & Therapeutic (P&T) Committee.

PROCEDURE

High priority BBW medications will be identified by the DHS Medication Safety Committee and DHS P&T Committee, and the LAC+USC P&T Committee will utilize their recommendations to promote safe and effective use of medications with BBW.

- The Licensed Nurse will review and implement the “RN Advisory “on the DHS High Priority BBW Medication Guidelines prior to administering the medication (refer to the DHS 2020 High Priority Black Box Warning Medications List available on the intranet “Pharmacy Services” homepage).
- DHS designated “High Priority” medications with Black Box Warnings will be identified on each patient’s Medication Administration Records as well as the automated medication dispensing machine.
- Drugs with Black Box Warning will be identified with a “Black Box warning” sticker prior to dispensing to the inpatient units.
- Fentanyl and Methadone:
 - A release form shall be signed by a provider and faxed to the pharmacy.
 - The release form and consent will be placed in the patient’s chart
- Report adverse findings on the Safety Intelligence report

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REFERENCE

Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Expected Practice: FDA Medication Black Box Warnings 2020.

#246 Pharmacy Policy: Black Box Warnings

REVISION DATES

09/08, 02/14, 05/18, 03/22