

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL
PHARMACY SERVICES**

SECTION: **OUTPATIENT PHARMACY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **THERAPEUTIC INTERCHANGE PROGRAM**

CODE: 2.16.0
DATE: 10-31-07, 7/25/14
REVISED: 4/19/22
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PAGES: 1 of 1

POLICY

The ambulatory pharmacist will interchange one medication among one or more therapeutically equivalent medications approved by the DHS Core P&T Committee.

PROCEDURE

- 1 Therapeutic interchanges shall be implemented after approval from DHS Core P&T Committee and/or drug unavailability according to DHS formulary.
 - a. The therapeutic interchange will be replaced with an equivalent alternative on DHS formulary when applicable.
 - b. For conversion of refills.
 - i Therapeutic interchanges for existing patients with refills will be requested for approval by the provider.
- 2 Any practitioner may choose to decline a therapeutic interchange for a patient by writing “Do Not Substitute” on a new prescription or medication order. For refill prescriptions, practitioners may identify “Do Not Substitute” patients on the attached lists and initial.
- 3 At the time a patient is dispensed their newly interchanged medication, the pharmacist will consult with the patient on the medication change and provide a patient education sheet containing relevant information on the interchange. The patient education sheet shall include contact information in case the patient has questions.

Reviewed: 4/13/2016 AN, 4/19/2022 TT

Approved By: *Ben Arndt*