

**POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL
PHARMACY SERVICES**

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APPROVED: Tinh Tran, Pharm. D
MEC APPROVED:

SECTION: **INPATIENT PHARMACY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **MEDICATION RETURNS FROM THE UNITS** Page 1 of 1

POLICY

Outdated, discolored, disintegrated, deteriorated, or precipitated medications must be returned to the pharmacy for proper disposal. The Inpatient Pharmacy personnel will assume the responsibility for inventorying these medications.

PROCEDURE

- A. Unit Dose. Unit dose cassette medications are to be left in the cassettes. Exception: when a patient is admitted to a room/bed formerly occupied by a discharged patient and the pharmacy technician has yet to make an exchange of cassettes, the nurses are to remove the medications from the cassette and place the medications in a paper bag designated for that patient, and in the Return to Pharmacy Bin.
- B. Large Volume Parenterals/Unrefrigerated I.V. Piggybacks-unused or discontinued items will be picked up by the Inpatient Pharmacy personnel at the 24 hour exchange.
- C. Refrigerated Medications- Inpatient Pharmacy personnel will be responsible for removing outdated, unused, or refrigerated medications.
- D. Used topicals, ophthalmics, otics, nasals, aerosolized medications. These medications are to be separated and secured for return to the Inpatient Pharmacy.
- E. Stock Medications
 - 1. Outdated, discolored, disintegrated, deteriorated, or precipitated medications will be returned to the Inpatient Pharmacy by pharmacy personnel
 - 2. Overstocked PAR medications and non-PAR medications will be the responsibility of licensed nursing staff to return to the Inpatient Pharmacy .
- F. Pharmacy Service- Inpatient Pharmacy personnel will ensure that medications returned from the unit are identified from what area they are returned from and will be subject to inventory control considerations

Reviewed: 8/11/14ll, 4/19/2022 TT

Approved By: *Ben Arndt*