

# LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

Subject: <b>AUTOMATIC MEDICATION SUBSTITUTION FOR ADULTS – OUTPATIENT PHARMACY</b>	Original Issue Date: 5/17/19	Policy # <b>949</b>
	Supersedes: 5/17/19	Effective Date: 4/7/23
Policy Owner(s): Director of Pharmacy Services Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Medical Officer		
Departments Consulted: Department of Pharmacy	Reviewed & approved by: Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by: Chief Medical Officer
		Chief Executive Officer

## PURPOSE

To define the process by which pharmacists at Los Angeles General Medical Center Outpatient pharmacies will be able to substitute adult medication orders to follow the DHS Formulary.

Goal:

1. Improve patient satisfaction by processing prescriptions in a more timely manner
2. Improve patient care by adhering to formulary
3. Improve communications by reducing unnecessary phone calls to the providers

## POLICY

Los Angeles General Medical Center Outpatient Pharmacies will substitute equivalent medications as described in this policy. Outpatient medication availability is based on the current DHS formulary. Generic substitution is based on the AB rating of a medication and is allowed by California Law. In the event that an AB rated product is not available the Los Angeles General Medical Center Outpatient pharmacist will substitute medications using their pharmaceutical judgment, best practices and this policy to substitute the approved medications per protocol.

## PROCEDURE

The medications prescribed will be substituted by protocol for adult patients within the outpatient pharmacies. Appendix A contains the Automatic Medication Substitution List.

If a prescriber wishes to opt out of the automatic DHS formulary conversion, then they must complete the following:

1. Add a note to the special instructions of the electronic script or add a note to the paper prescriptions **and**
2. Must complete a non-formulary request (TNF) with a detailed explanation of why the formulary agent cannot be used.

DHS Pharmacy administration will review the request for approval.

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**RESPONSIBILITY**

Outpatient Pharmacy Department  
Attending Staff  
Residents

**ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A – Automatic Medication Substitution List

**REVISION DATES**

April 7, 2023