

HIGH DESERT HEALTH SYSTEM AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: XI-118 PYXIS MEDICATION REFRIGERATOR TEMPERATURE CONTROL	POLICY #: 1076
	VERSION: 1
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DATE APPROVED: 09/15/2017	

PURPOSE: To describe process in place to ensure adequate Pyxis refrigerator temperatures for the proper storage of medications in the Ambulatory Surgical Center.

POLICY:

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) nursing staff is responsible for:

1. Ensuring that temperature for the Pyxis refrigerator is recorded daily during hours of operation.
2. Reporting any deviation from the acceptable refrigerator range to the ASC Nursing Director, or his/her designee, HDRHC Pharmacy, and HDRHC Facilities.

PROCEDURE:

The assigned nursing staff member will:

1. Ensure that refrigerator remains plugged in at all times.
2. The refrigerator is monitored with a digital thermometer along with the Rees digital system for backup
3. Record the temperature reading daily.
4. Medication refrigerator's temperatures must be maintained within the range of 35° F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C)
5. In the event of a deviation in the temperature, above or below the designated range, the following actions are taken:
 - a. Record the temperature on the daily log sheet
 - b. Notify HDRHC Pharmacy at:
 - Extension 14100 Monday to Friday 8:00AM to 7:00PM.
 - Call the Operator to page the Pharmacist on call during off hours
 - c. Immediately transfer medications to a back-up medication refrigerator in the HDRHC Pharmacy. **Do not place medication in any refrigerator used for food storage.**

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- d. Notify the ASC Nursing Director.
- e. Notify Facilities at extension 14955. During off-hours leave a message with the Facilities Department.
- 6. If a power outage occurs after hours, or in the event that the refrigerator's temperature is out of range, the REES system is programmed to activate the fan-out list and notify individuals of the event via telephone. The first staff member to be notified is the ASC Nursing Director.
- 7. The ASC Nursing Director will notify the HDRHC Administrator On Duty (AOD), who will ensure that the medications are immediately transferred to a back-up medication refrigerator in the HDRHC Pharmacy and notify both HDRHC Pharmacy and Facilities.
- 8. The ASC Nursing Director will be responsible for reviewing the log to determine the duration the temperatures were out of range. This will be reported to the HDRHC Pharmacy Director to determine whether the exposed medications need to be discarded.

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE:

- 1. Facilities will be responsible for performing preventive maintenance and safety checks on refrigerator and digital thermometer.
- 2. Digital thermometer uses one 'AA' size battery. When the voltage of the battery becomes low, all '°C' and '°F' digits will flash.
- 3. Notify Facilities of any malfunctioning equipment or if the digital thermometer battery needs replacing.
- 4. All thermometers must be calibrated annually. The calibration certificates must be kept on file with facilities.

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