
MEDICATION ORDERS

PRESCRIBER MEDICATION ORDERS

Policy

Prescription medications are dispensed only upon the clear, complete, and signed order (hardcopy or electronic) of a person lawfully authorized to prescribe. Verbal prescription orders are received only by a licensed pharmacist.

Residents shall only possess those medications prescribed by their physician or authorized prescriber. Physician/prescriber orders are required for all prescription and non-prescription (i.e., over-the-counter) medications for those receiving medication assistance from ALC staff.

No resident shall be permitted to use or take another resident's prescription medication.

Procedures

- A. Medication orders (prescriptions) contain all of the elements required by law, including:
- 1) Patient name.
 - 2) Name of medication.
 - 3) Strength of medication.
 - 4) Dose.
 - 5) Dosage form.
 - 6) Time or frequency of administration.
 - 7) Route of administration.
 - 8) Quantity to dispense or duration of therapy.
 - 9) Prescriber name and signature.
 - 10) Refill authorization.
 - 11) Date.
 - 12) PRN (as needed) medication orders should specify the frequency of administration, maximum daily dosage, and condition for which the medication is being administered (e.g., pain, sleep).
- B. Prescription orders are required for all non-prescription medications for residents who receive medication assistance from ALC staff.
- C. Any dose or order that appears inappropriate, considering the resident's age, allergies, diagnosis, or current medication regimen, is verified with the prescriber.
- D. Each medication order— prescription and non-prescription — is recorded on the resident's Medication Record.

Pharmacy:

Effective Date:

MEDICATION ORDERS

NON-PRESCRIPTION (OVER-THE-COUNTER) MEDICATIONS

Policy

Non-prescription (i.e., over-the-counter) medications will be delivered by the pharmacy upon the request of the resident or family/responsible party, in accordance with the agreement with the ALC and/or ALC policies and procedures. These products must be clearly labeled with at least the resident's name and apartment/room number.

Physician/prescriber orders are required for all non-prescription medications for residents who receive medication assistance from the ALC staff.

Procedures

- A. The resident or family/responsible party notifies the ALC if the resident is taking non-prescription medications.
- B. Non-prescription medications must be kept in the manufacturer's original container, and clearly labeled with the resident's name and apartment/room number, without covering the name and strength of the medication, expiration date, and lot number.
- C. Physician/prescriber orders are required for all non-prescription medications for residents who receive medication assistance from ALC staff, or whose medications are administered by ALC or home health agency staff.
- D. Non-prescription medications dispensed pursuant to a physician/prescriber order and/or dispensed by the pharmacy are labeled in accordance with the requirements for a prescription label.
- E. Use of non-prescription medications is documented in the resident's Medication Record.

Definitions

Non-prescription medications include, but are not limited to, analgesics, vitamins, nutritional supplements, herbal medicines, cough and cold preparations, laxatives, allergy medications, antacids, and topical medications.

Pharmacy:

Effective Date:
