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Title 44@ Department of Health

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Article 44:73@ Nursing facilities

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Chapter 44:73:08@ Medication control

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Section 44:73:08:04@ Storage and labeling of medications and drugs

## **44\_73\_08\_04 Storage and labeling of medications and drugs**

All drugs or medications shall be stored in a well illuminated, locked storage area that is well ventilated, maintained at a temperature appropriate for drug storage, and inaccessible to residents or visitors at all times. Medications suitable for storage at room temperature shall be maintained between 59 and 86 degrees Fahrenheit (15 and 30 degrees centigrade). Medications that require refrigeration shall be maintained between 36 and 46 degrees Fahrenheit (2 and 8 degrees centigrade). Poisons and medications prescribed for external use shall be stored separately from internal medications, locked and made inaccessible to residents. The medications or drugs of each patient or resident for whom medications are facility administered shall be stored in the containers in which they were originally received and may not be transferred to another container. Special modification of this requirement may be made if single dose packaging is used. Each prescription drug container, including manufacturer's complimentary samples, shall be labeled with the resident's name, physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner's name, drug name and strength, directions for use, and prescription date.

Containers with contents that will not be used within 30 days of issue or with contents that expire in less than 30 days of issue shall bear an expiration date. If a single dose system is used, the drug name and strength, expiration date, and a control number shall be on the unit dose packet.

A nursing facility may procure and stock, including in bulk form, nonlegend medications and administer them in accordance with written policies and procedures that provide for oversight by qualified personnel.

Any container with a worn, illegible, or missing label shall be destroyed pursuant to 44:73:08:06. Licensed pharmacists are responsible for the labeling, relabeling, or altering of labels on medication containers.