

**§482.25 Condition of Participation: Pharmaceutical Services.**

**The hospital must have pharmaceutical services that meet the needs of the patients. The institution must have a pharmacy directed by a registered pharmacist or a drug storage area under competent supervision. The medical staff is responsible for developing policies and procedures that minimize drug errors. This function may be delegated to the hospital's organized pharmaceutical service.**

**Interpretive Guidelines §482.25**

A hospital must provide pharmaceutical services that meet the needs of its patients. The services must include either a pharmacy that is directed by a pharmacist, or, when appropriate, a drug storage area that is competently supervised. The hospital's medical staff is responsible for developing pharmaceutical policies and procedures that minimize the potential for medication errors, but may delegate this function to the pharmaceutical service.

The manner or degree of noncompliance with the requirements of this Condition and its component standards must be evaluated to determine whether there is substantial noncompliance with the Condition, warranting a Condition-level citation.