

§ 76901. Pharmaceutical Services - Labeling and Storage of Drugs.

(a) Drug containers which are cracked, soiled or without secure closures shall not be used. Drug labels shall be legible.

(b) All drugs obtained by prescription shall be labeled in compliance with state and federal laws governing prescription dispensing. No person other than the dispenser of the drug shall change any prescription label.

(c) Nonlegend drugs shall be labeled in conformance with state and federal food and drug laws.

(d) Test reagents, germicides, disinfectants and other household substances shall be stored separately from drugs and shall not be accessible to clients unless so specified in the client's individual service plan.

(e) External use drugs in liquid, tablet, capsule or powder form shall be stored separately from drugs for internal use.

(f) Drugs required to be stored at room temperature shall be stored at temperatures between 15 degrees C (59 degrees F) and 30 degrees C (86 degrees F). Drugs requiring refrigeration shall be stored in a refrigerator between 2 degrees C (36 degrees F) and 8 degrees C (46 degrees F). When drugs are stored in the same refrigerator with food, the drugs shall be kept in a closed container clearly labeled "drugs" or "medications."

(g) Drugs shall be stored in an orderly manner in cabinets, drawers or carts of a size to prevent crowding.

(h) Dose preparation and administration areas shall be lighted in accordance with Table 2-53Q, Part 2, Title 24, California Administrative Code. If medication carts are utilized a flashlight shall be available on the cart.

(i) Drugs, hypodermic syringes and needles shall be accessible only to the administrator, pharmacist, physician, registered nurses, licensed vocational nurses and psychiatric technicians and direct care staff who administer medications except as provided in Section 76876(f)(1). Such access shall be designated in writing by the facility.

(j) Drugs shall not be kept in stock after the expiration date on the label and no contaminated or deteriorated drugs shall be available for use.

(k) The drugs of each client shall be kept and stored in the original container. No drug shall be transferred between containers.

(l) Containers of discontinued drugs shall be marked to indicate that the drug has been discontinued and shall be disposed of in accordance with Section 76903 within 90 days unless reordered within that time.

(m) Nonlegend medications may be stored at a client's bedside under the following conditions:

(1) Such storage is not contraindicated by the attending physician who shall be informed of all such storage. Facilities may adopt more restrictive policies regarding bedside storage of medications.

(2) The names of drugs located at the bedside shall be recorded in the client's individual service plan.

(3) The facility shall record bedside medication used daily based on observation or information supplied by the client.

(4) The facility shall maintain a record of drugs obtained for bedside use, including date of receipt, client name and quantity.

(5) Marked change in the use of self-administered drugs that indicate a significant change in the condition of the client shall be reported to the physician.

(6) Such medications shall be secured against access by the other clients.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 208.4 and 1267.7, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 1276, Health and Safety Code.

22 CCR § 76901, 22 CA ADC § 76901