

Washtenaw County Community Mental Health

SAMPLE MEDICATION – (policy)

PURPOSE

Standardize use of sample medication and medication vouchers by staff for recipient care.

POLICY

It is the policy of Washtenaw County CMH to utilize sample medications and medication vouchers when available at treatment sites for the care of uninsured and/or underinsured recipients, and, to assess the tolerability of medications by recipients.

DEFINITIONS

Pharmaceutical Representative: A representative of a pharmaceutical manufacturer who visits WCCMH for the purpose of soliciting the use of their products, and to obtain signatures of prescribers to order sample medication.

Sample medication: Prescription medications provided free-of-charge by pharmaceutical representatives to treatment sites for distribution to recipients of care.

Medication Voucher: A certificate provided by a pharmaceutical representative for a free or reduced rate supply of medication.

Medical staff: A physician or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist who is licensed by the State of MI to practice, and who has authority by licensure or delegation to prescribe medication.

Delegated dispenser: Nursing staff trained in accepting and distributing sample medications, and, documenting said responsibilities on a Sample Medication Log.

Controlled substances: Schedule II, III, or IV medications as defined by the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Integrated Health Site: A coordinated care site that has representation of a CMH psychiatrist within the community care setting. This may be a primary care site or a place of detention/incarceration.

Market withdrawal: occurs when a product has a minor violation that would not be subject to FDA legal action. The firm removes the product from the market or corrects the violation. For example, a product removed from the market due to tampering, without evidence of manufacturing or distribution problems, would be a market withdrawal.

Class I recall: a situation in which there is a reasonable probability that the use of or exposure to a violative product will cause serious adverse health consequences or death.

Class II recall: a situation in which use of or exposure to a violative product may cause temporary or medically reversible adverse health consequences or where the probability of serious adverse health consequences is remote.

Classes III recall: a situation in which use of or exposure to a violative product is not likely to cause adverse health consequences.

STANDARDS

- Prescribers will not sign for and medical staff will not accept any samples for controlled substances.
- Samples for controlled substances will only be accepted after consultation with the medical director.
- WCCMH medical staff may secure coupons/vouchers/free-of-charge and/or reduced priced medication samples from pharmaceutical representatives in accordance with the Michigan Public Health Code. Samples and vouchers will become property of Washtenaw County once logged into the sample supply.
- Sample medications will be logged into designated secure CMH clinical site by nursing staff and distributed in accordance with Michigan Legislature Public Health Code Section 333.17750 and recipient eligibility guidelines determined by WCCMH.
- Sample medications and medication vouchers will be stored in a secured area with at minimum one lock
- Medical/nursing staff will notify recipient no later than 3 business days if the recipient has received a sample supply of medication recalled via market withdrawal or class I/II/III recall. All clients who received identified medication will be given manufacturer or FDA recommendations. An incident report will be written and the medical director will be notified.

PROCEDURES

(see procedures manual)

REFERENCES

- Michigan Public Health Occupational Code
- Michigan Legislature Public Health Code Section 333.17750
- The Joint Commission Standard MM.05.01.17
- Michigan Mental Health Code Act 258 of 1974
- Joint Commission Behavioral Health Standards
- Michigan Legislature Public Health Code, Section 333.17750
- CMH Policy: "Administration of Medication and Other Medical Treatment"
- www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls

EXHIBITS

- A. Sample Medication Sign In/Out form

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