
		Page 0 of 2
Title: Patient Own Medication		
Document #: 3054	Issuing Authority:	
Last Revised Date: 12/31/2018	Version Number: 1.0 (Current)	

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Title: Patient Own Medication		Pages: 1 of 2
Section:	Issuing Authority: Medication Management Patient Services Medication Utilization	
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POLICY STATEMENT:

The Brant Community Healthcare System (BCHS) is committed to the appropriate use of patient's own medications while in hospital. BCHS does not support the storage of patient own medications on the clinical units nor in the pharmacy department. Any medication brought into the hospital by an admitted patient for use in hospital will be sent to the pharmacy department to be bar-coded and then returned to the unit for storage in the patient's medication drawer. The patient own medication is classified as a non-formulary medication and is to be administered as ordered by admitting physician. All other medications not used in the hospital will be sent home with a family member or stored with patient belongings.

DEFINITION (S):

Non formulary medication: A medication that is not approved to be on the hospital drug formulary and therefore not normally inventoried in the pharmacy.

PROCEDURE:

- If patient own medications are brought into the hospital by a patient or family member they can be used as a source of information to prepare the Best Possible Medication History (BPMH)
- Once the BPMH is scanned to the pharmacy department, a member of the pharmacy staff will notify the unit if any medications are required for use in hospital if they are non-formulary medications.
- The specific patient own medications to be used in hospital will be entered on the eMAR as "Non-Formulary – Patient to use own supply"
- Any patient's own medication used in hospital must be sent to the pharmacy department for bar-coding.
- All other medications are to be returned to the patient to be stored with the patient's belongings or sent home with a family member

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- Patient own medications are not to be stored on the unit or sent to the pharmacy for storage
- For patients own medications which are narcotic or controlled drugs, the same procedure will apply, however the medication for inpatient administration will then be stored in a locked drawer of a medication cart or in the pharmacy for daily dispensing.

DISPOSAL OF MEDICATION:

- The pharmacy department will not routinely dispose of medications no longer needed by a hospital patient.
- The medications should be sent home with the patient for disposal at their community pharmacy
- In the event there is a suspected risk to a patient by returning medications to the patient that are no longer required for his/her care, the pharmacy will dispose of the medication(s) after consent for disposal from the patient (or substitute decision maker) has been given and documented.

REFERENCES:

APPENDIX:

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