

SAHTU HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE AUTHORITY
Policy

CHC POLICIES

**Medication Dispensing
Policy**

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POLICY

Community Health Nurses (CHNs) are responsible for adhering to Formulary Protocols when dispensing medications to patients and individuals acting on the patient's behalf. Once the medication is removed from the premises the patient assumes responsibility.

PURPOSE

1. To protect the CHN from professional responsibility for and liability arising from, the mishandling or misuse of patients' personal medications.
2. To outline procedures for the safe supply, storage, dispensing, and handling of all medications in the Health Centre.

PROCEDURE

1. Community Health Nurses are responsible for the safe supply, storage, dispensing, and handling of all medications in the Health Centre.
2. Community Health Nurses dispense the appropriate amount of medication (stock or prescription) and record the same on the patient's Medication Profile.
3. A series of "checks" are completed at each dispensing to prevent errors (correct patient, correct medication, correct label).
 - Patient's name
 - Date (dd/month/yy)
 - Name of medication
 - Strength of medication dispensed
 - Route of administration
 - Frequency that medication is to be taken
 - Duration of therapy
 - Amount dispensed
 - Initials of person dispensing

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4. Once dispensed, the patient or individual acting on their behalf, assumes responsibility for administration and safe keeping.

ATTACHMENTS

None

REFERENCES

1. GNWT Formulary for Community Health Centres, 2006

Approved by: _____



Chad Fehr, CEO