

System Department

Section: Medical Staff (MS)

Subject: Drug and Nutritional Samples

Number: MS02

Attachments:

Date Effective: 5/5/98

Date Reviewed: 10/00, 01/02, 07/04, 09/06, 12/08, 2/11, 06/13/13

DRUG AND NUTRITIONAL SAMPLES

POLICY: To comply with medical staff policy and with State and Federal Laws of procurement, storage and distribution of prescription drugs and nutritional.

I. Inpatient Care Areas

All pharmaceutical and nutritional samples are prohibited from use, storage, or distribution in any inpatient area (including the inpatient and outpatient operating rooms and PACU).

II. Outpatient Care Areas

- A. Drug samples may be distributed by a pharmaceutical manufacturer representative upon request only to a licensed practitioner able by law to prescribe drugs. Nutritional samples may be distributed to licensed prescribers, registered nurses, or licensed medical nutrition therapists (i.e. Registered Dietician).
- B. Drug samples may only be procured and given to the patient upon a written order from the prescribing licensed practitioner.
- C. Nutritional samples may be given to patients by a prescribing licensed practitioner, licensed medical nutrition therapist, or nurses in support of the overall plan of care.
- D. Drug and nutritional samples must be given to patients in their original manufacturer's packaging and labeling along with the patient packaging insert.
- E. Immediately prior to the patient obtaining a sample, the sample must be inspected to assure that it has not expired.
- F. The Clinic Physician Manager/Medical Director shall be responsible for the maintenance and control of samples in the clinics. The Physician Manager/Medical Director determines which samples are acceptable for their patient population. The choice of samples in the clinics is independent of drugs and nutritional listed on the inpatient formulary.
- G. All drug samples in the clinics shall be stored in a locked cabinet when clinic is not in session. Nutritional samples do not need to be locked.
- H. All samples given to the patient in the clinic must be documented by a mechanism that can easily identify the lot number, date, drug or nutritional (brand name in order to identify the manufacturer), strength and patient registration number (refer to attached example).
- I. In the event of a recall of a sample, patients who received the sample will be identified and contacted in the same manner as in any recall as depicted in the Department of Pharmaceutical Services policy 1.190 and Food and Nutrition policy AC-311.
- J. It is against the law to sell or trade samples.

Reviewed by: Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee (10/26/10)
Bylaws Committee (11/11/2010)
Medical Staff Executive Committee (02/08/2011)
Board of Directors (02/21/2011)

