



**Medication Policy and Procedures
Administration and Documentation of PRN Medications**

Title: Administration and Documentation of PRN Medications

Effective: November 1, 2014

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Accountability: RN, LPN, Unlicensed Staff

Background: MN Statute 144G.71, subd. 8

POLICY:

PRN (as needed) medications will be administered consistent with the parameters specified in the prescriber's prescription and with the procedures identified by the RN for the administration and documentation of the PRN.

PROCEDURE:

1. The RN will review PRN prescriptions to ensure that the prescription clearly identifies symptoms/indications for which the PRN is prescribed, the frequency that the PRN may be administered, the dose that may be administered, route and other pertinent information. **For example, the prescription should not say "one or two tablets" but should say "one tablet and if not effective in ____ [time frame] then a second tablet may be given. . ."** If the parameters for the PRN medication are unclear, the RN will follow up with the prescriber to obtain the necessary clarification. **NOTE:** parameters can be entered in the EMR by including specific administration requirements within the instruction details.

2. The RN will document in the resident's medication record/EMAR; the PRN medication name, dose, route, frequency, where it is stored, when or if the supervising nurse needs to be notified, when staff must check back with the resident following administration to determine whether the PRN was effective, symptoms for which the PRN medication may be administered. **Note: if a PRN medication has more than one symptom/indication for use, you must enter the indication to reflect this. For example: pain, fever. This will prompt the system to require staff to select an indication on administration.**
3. Staff will administer PRN medications exactly as prescribed and will document administration of PRN medications in EMAR as required by the RN and will contact the supervising nurse if the staff person or resident has any questions or concerns about the PRN medication.