



TITLE:	MEDICATION SERVICES	POLICY 16.02
--------	---------------------	--------------

Authority: WAC 246-888-020
WAC 388-78A-2210
RCW 74.39
RCW 69.41-010
RCW 69.41.085
RCW 18.79.040

PURPOSE:

Provides guidelines for administrating medications.

SCOPE:

All nursing staff.

POLICY:

We will assist and/or administer prescription and over-the-counter medications as allowed by state statute/regulations and will maintain records of such assistance/administration.

For the purposes of this policy, independent self-administration occurs when a resident is independently able to directly apply a legend drug or controlled substance by ingestion, inhalation, injection or other means. Self-administration may include situations in which an individual cannot physically self-administer medications but can accurately direct others. These regulations do not limit the rights of persons with functional disabilities to self-direct care.

For the purposes of this policy, medication assistance means the assistance that is rendered by a non-practitioner to a resident to facilitate the individual's self-administration of medication. It includes reminding and/or coaching, handing the medication container to the resident, opening the medication container, using an enabler, or placing the medication in the resident's hand and such other means as allowed by regulatory agencies. The resident must be able to put the medication into his or her mouth or apply or instill the medication. The resident does not necessarily need to state the name of the medication, intended effects, side effects, or other details, but must be aware that they are receiving medications. The resident retains the right to refuse medications.

Assistance with the administration of intravenous and injectable medications is



TITLE:	MEDICATION SERVICES	POLICY 16.02
--------	---------------------	--------------

specifically excluded.

Self-administration with assistance shall occur immediately prior to the ingestion or application of a medication.

For the purposes of this policy, medication administration means a resident is not able to physically ingest or apply a medication independently or with assistance, so must have the medication administered by a person legally authorized to do so. If the resident cannot safely self-administer or self-administer with assistance and/or cannot indicate awareness that she or he is taking a medication, then the medication must be administered to the resident by a person legally authorized to do so.

PROCEDURE:

1. An assessment of resident's ability to manage his or her medications will be completed in consultation with the resident, the resident's representative, the facility staff, and the resident's health care practitioner (if necessary).
2. The resident's level of independence, assistance, or need for administration will be based on abilities, preferences, health and safety needs.
3. The resident's medication service level will be documented in the resident's record. There may be circumstances where the resident will be placed in different medication service levels for different medications.
4. The medication service needs will be reevaluated with a related change in the resident's condition and if necessary reassign the resident a new level of medication service.
5. Unless the resident is independent with medications, all medications, including over-the-counter medications and nutrients such as vitamins and supplements need an order by a person authorized to prescribe medications.
6. The facility will document and record current prescribed orders for residents receiving medication assistance or administration. The facility will use a medication administration record.
7. The resident always has the right to refuse medications.
8. The staff will not pre-fill medicine cups.
9. A licensed nurse may set up medication organizers for residents. These medication organizers can thereafter be used by residents who are



Trouves Health Care

TITLE:	MEDICATION SERVICES	POLICY 16.02
--------	---------------------	--------------

independent with medication self-administration, or by staff who will assist or administer these medications.

EXCEPTIONS:

No exceptions to this policy may be granted without the prior written approval of the Director.

SUPERCEDES:

None