



TITLE:	MEDICATION – INDEPENDENT WITH SELF-ADMINISTRATION	POLICY 16.05
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Authority: WAC 246-888-020
WAC 388-78A-2210
RCW 74.39
RCW 69.41.010
RCW 18.79.040
RCW 69.41.085

PURPOSE:

Provides guidelines for residents with independent and self-administration of medications.

SCOPE:

All nursing staff.

POLICY:

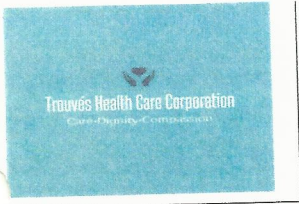
Independent self-administration occurs when a resident is independently able to directly apply a legend drug or controlled substance by ingestion, inhalation, injection or other means. Self-administration may include situations in which an individual cannot physically self-administer medications but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

PROCEDURE:

1. Residents who are independent with their medications must fully understand the appropriate use of the medication and be able to self-administer the medications according to the prescribed time, dosage and special instructions. Storage of medications for residents who are independent with self-administration may be in the resident's room/apartment and away from access by other residents, or stored by the facility per resident's request.

OR

2. Residents who cannot physically self-administer medications but can accurately direct others to:
 - a. Open the container; and
 - b. Apply or instill oral, skin, nose, eye and ear preparations.
3. The resident may not direct unlicensed personnel to administer



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injectable medications.

4. It is the facility's responsibility to assess appropriateness of medication services being provided. If a resident forgets to take medications per health care practitioner order or takes medications more frequently than prescribed or does not store medications appropriately after use, re-evaluation will be required. At this time the facility will notify family and health care practitioner to determine if an alternate medication service should be provided.
5. Staff documentation is not required on a resident who is independent with medication administration. Safe and secure storage in the resident's room does not necessarily mean locked. The facility will assess each situation and consider accessibility to other residents and visitors.

EXCEPTIONS:

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

SUPERCEDES:

None