

TITLE:	MEDICATION ALTERING RESIDENTS	POLICY 16.15
--------	-------------------------------	--------------

Authority: WAC 388-78A-2250
WAC 246-888

PURPOSE:

Provide guidelines when having to alter a resident's medication.

SCOPE:

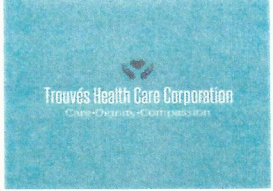
All nursing staff.

POLICY:

We ensure residents receive their medications in a safe and prescribed manner. At times, medications must be altered in order to aid in swallowing. This may include crushing, mixing with food or beverage, or opening a capsule.

PROCEDURE:

1. Medications are to be provided to residents in the form in which they were prescribed by the health care practitioner and provided by the pharmacy, unless:
 - a. The resident is unable or unwilling to take the medications in their normal form; and
 - b. The facility has documentation from a qualified practitioner (doctor, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or pharmacist) that it is safe and appropriate to alter the medication in a specified manner;
 - c. The medication staff tells the resident that the medication has been altered, and the resident agrees to take the medication in the altered form.
2. Only trained medication staff may alter medication for resident consumption.
3. Document the alteration of the medication in the resident's health record, along with the appropriateness of the alteration.



Trouves Health Care

TITLE:	MEDICATION ALTERING RESIDENTS	POLICY 16.15
--------	-------------------------------	--------------

EXCEPTIONS:

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

SUPERCEDES:

None