

NH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE DIRECTIVE	CHAPTER <u>Health Services</u> STATEMENT NUMBER <u>6.56</u>
SUBJECT: <b>PRESCRIBING NEW/FIRST TIME MEDICATION</b>  PROPONENT: <u>Helen Hanks, Administrative Director</u> <i>Name/Title</i> <u>Medical/Forensic Services 271-3707</u> <i>Office Phone #</i>	EFFECTIVE DATE <u>10/01/12</u> REVIEW DATE <u>10/01/13</u> SUPERSEDES PPD# <u>NEW</u> DATED <u>N/A</u>
ISSUING OFFICER:  <hr/> <i>William Wrenn, Commissioner</i>	DIRECTOR'S INITIALS: _____ DATE: _____ APPENDIX ATTACHED: YES _____ NO _____
REFERENCE NO: See reference section on last page of PPD.	

I. PURPOSE:

To outline the procedural steps for insuring safe medication practices when administering new or first time medications to NH Department of Corrections (NHDOC) patients.

II. APPLICABILITY:

To all NHDOC prescribing practitioners and nursing staff.

III. POLICY:

It is the policy of the NH Department of Corrections that all patients who are in receipt of new medications or are receiving a medication for the first time, when clinically indicated, will be monitored by a member of the nursing staff for the first 24 hours of usage.

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. When prescribing a new/first time medication, the prescriber will:

1. Write an order for the medication;
2. Review all current orders for duplication of therapy, drug interactions and/or contraindications to therapy;
3. With the new medications that the practitioner wants monitored, the practitioner will write an order for a next day nursing appointment with a corresponding clinical note indicating the need.

B. Nursing Staff will:

1. When transcribing the order a nurse appointment will be scheduled for the next day.
2. Monitor the patient's response to the new therapy and document the effects from the first doses in a progress note. Notify the practitioner when clinically indicated.

C. All patients will be informed to go to Health Services Sick Call if they have any concerns or questions regarding the new medication.

REFERENCES:

Standards for the Administration of Correctional Agencies  
Second Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions  
Fourth Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Community Residential Services  
Fourth Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Field Services  
Third Edition Standards

Other

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