I. PURPOSE:
The purpose of this policy is to define a policy for the periodic reevaluation of pharmacotherapy.

II. APPLICABILITY:
To all healthcare staff.

III. POLICY:
It is the policy of the NH Department of Corrections (NHDOC) that:
A. Stop Orders are provided to assure medication orders are reviewed by the prescriber to avoid adverse reactions associated with prolonged use of medications.
B. Orders may be written for a maximum duration as follows:
   1. For narcotic analgesics in Schedule II 30 days;
   2. For medications in Schedules III-V 6 months;
   3. For all other medications one year; and
   4. At no time will orders exceed the limit mandated by the NH Board of Pharmacy and the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

IV. PROCEDURE:
A. All prescribers will write medication orders indicating:
   1. Exact number of doses to be administered; or
   2. Exact period of time for which the medication is ordered.
B. Default Time Limits-If the prescriber fails to designate:
   1. Schedule II Controlled Substances- 72 hours;
   2. Schedule III Controlled Substances- One week;
   3. Schedule IV Controlled Substances- One week;
   4. Schedule V Controlled Substances- One week;
   5. Anti-Microbials (internal and external) - 10 days; and
   6. All medications not included in 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 - 30 days.
REFERENCES:

Standards for the Administration of Correctional Agencies
Second Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Correctional Institution
Fourth Edition Standards
4-4378

Standards for Adult Community Residential Services
Fourth Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Field Services
Third Edition Standards

Other:
JC TX 2.1.2.
NCCHC: P-D-02

HANKS/pf