3.5.9 Additional Requirements Pertaining to Licensed Inpatient Facilities

(a) Procedure Overview

This procedure applies to licensed inpatient beds only. Beds licensed under California Code of Regulations, Title 22, have additional regulatory requirements that must be met which may include, but are not limited to the following:

(1) Automatic medication stop order dates (applies to all licensed beds).
(2) Drug Regimen Reviews (applies to Intermediate Care Facilities [ICF] and Skilled Nursing Facilities [SNF]).

(b) Purpose

To promote patient safety and comply with federal and state requirements for licensed inpatient beds.

(c) Procedure

(1) Automatic Medication Stop Order Dates:

(A) Medication orders for patients in licensed inpatient beds shall be automatically stopped after 48 hours if the duration is not specified in the order.
(B) If the automatic stop date falls on a weekend or a holiday, this date shall be extended to the next regular business day unless otherwise specified by the prescriber in the original medication order.
(C) Licensed health care staff shall ensure that all telephone orders for patients in licensed inpatient beds contain the required prescription elements including the duration of the order (Refer to the Health Care Department Operations Manual, Section 3.5.5, Prescription/Order Requirements and Medication Availability).
(D) When pharmacy receives an order without a duration specified, the pharmacy staff shall contact the prescriber for clarification.
(E) Pharmacy shall inform medical leadership of any concerns where medications have been automatically stopped due to a lack of clarification of the order duration.

(2) Drug Regimen Reviews

The Pharmacist-in-Charge shall ensure that drug regimen reviews are completed at the appropriate interval for patients admitted to licensed ICF and SNF beds.

(A) Licensed ICF Beds:
1. A pharmacist shall review each patient's active medication profile at least monthly and shall evaluate the patient's medication regimen for:
   a. Appropriateness of therapy (indication, route, frequency, dose, and duration).
   b. Potential drug interactions.
   c. Potential adverse drug reactions.
   d. Contraindications.
   e. Allergy.
   f. Therapeutic duplication (polypharmacy).
2. For medications requiring clinical monitoring of labs, renal function, hepatic function, plasma level, etc., the pharmacist shall review the health record and applicable information.
3. The pharmacist shall communicate any potential issues identified in the review in writing to the prescriber.
4. The pharmacist shall review the patient drug regimen, document any issues identified in the progress notes, and sign and date the entry.

(B) Licensed SNF Beds:
1. A pharmacist shall review the drug regimen of each patient at least monthly and prepare appropriate reports. The review shall include:
   a. All medications currently ordered,
   b. Information concerning the patient's condition relating to drug therapy,
   c. Medication administration records, and where appropriate,
   d. Physician's progress notes, nurse's notes, and laboratory test results.
2. The pharmacist shall be responsible for reporting, in writing, irregularities in the dispensing and administration of medications and other matters relating to the review of the drug regimen to the administrator and Chief Nurse Executive (CNE). A pharmacist shall evaluate:
   a. Appropriateness of therapy (indication, route, frequency, dose, and duration).
   b. Potential drug interactions.
   c. Contraindications.

   d. Therapeutic duplication and/or polypharmacy.
   e. Unnecessary medications.
   f. Documented allergy and adverse drug reactions.
   g. Relevant lab results for abnormalities as required for drug monitoring.
   h. Any other common parameters requiring adjustment in dose or regimen.
3. The pharmacist shall communicate the findings of the review in writing to the prescriber and the CNE or designee (e.g., the supervising nurse in charge of a licensed SNF).
4. The pharmacist shall make an entry in the progress notes indicating that the patient drug regimen has been reviewed, document any issues when identified, and sign and date the entry.

References

- California Health and Safety Code, Division 2, Chapter 2.05, Section 1339.63
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 1, Article 3, Section 70263, Pharmaceutical Service General Requirements
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 72359, Pharmaceutical Service - Stop Orders
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 72375, Pharmaceutical Service - Staff
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 4, Article 3, Section 73313, Nursing Service - Drug Administration
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 4, Article 3, Section 73357, Pharmaceutical Service - Stop Orders
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 5, Chapter 12, Article 3, Section 79653, Pharmaceutical Service - Stop Orders
- Health Care Department Operations Manual, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 3.5.5, Prescription/Order Requirements and Medication Availability

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