



Division of Public and Behavioral Health Technical Bulletin



Topic: PRN Medications in Residential Facilities for Groups

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TO: HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND THE PUBLIC

This technical bulletin is being provided to assist in understanding of NAC 449.2746 (1). Regulation with guidance:

NAC 449.2746 Administration of medication: Restrictions concerning medication taken as needed by resident; written records. (NRS 449.0302)

1. A caregiver employed by a residential facility shall not assist a resident in the administration of a medication that is taken as needed unless:

(a) The resident is able to determine his or her need for the medication;

Residents that are mentally cognizant should be allowed to determine his or her need for an as needed medication.

(b) The determination of the resident's need for the medication is made by a *medical professional qualified to make that determination; or


(c) The caregiver has received written instructions indicating the specific symptoms for which the medication is to be given, the exact amount of medication that may be given and the frequency with which the medication may be given.

- The medication must be spelled out and number of tablets/capsules be defined with a specific number and not a range (ex. 1 to 2, 1-2).
- The route of the medication must be specific. Ex. P.O. (orally).
- The symptom the medication is addressing must be defined and specific, such as, for a fever between 100 degrees and 102 degrees, for pain at patient's request, etc.
- The duration of the dose of medication must be specific, before the physician is called, such as, Tylenol 325 mg every 6 hours for a fever between 100 degrees and 102 degrees, not to exceed 4 consecutive doses without notifying the physician.

*NAC 449.169 "Medical professional" defined. (NRS 449.0302) "Medical professional" means a physician or a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist or practitioner of respiratory care who is trained and licensed to perform medical procedures and care prescribed by a physician. (Added to NAC by Bd. of Health by R003-97, eff. 10-30-97).

The facility types this regulation specifies are residential facilities for groups.

Signed:  Date: 3/19/14
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Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Signed:  Date: 3/19/14
Richard Whitley, MS, Administrator
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