

Inmate Health Protocol

Self-Medication Keep On Person (SM-KOP)

1. The Department of Corrections will maintain a Self-Medication Keep on Person Medication (SM-KOP) program at appropriate facilities to allow prisoners who are medically approved to do so to keep medications in their possession and self administer those medications. Participation in this program is a privilege that comes with responsibilities to take the medication as directed, to share it with no other person, and to return to medical staff at the correct time to get more medication. Any prisoner who misuses this program may be removed from the Keep on Person program and/or disciplined.
2. Medication containers may be blister cards, inhalers, bottles, etc., as dispensed from the pharmacy with the appropriate pharmacy labeling. In addition, medical staff may give the prisoner a medication container, which the prisoner can use to store 1-2 day's worth of medication.
3. Prisoners must be approved by the health care practitioner to self-administer prescription medication. This approval will be designated on the practitioner's prescription for the medication in the medical record. A stamp is available for use to help structure the documentation of medication order in the medical record. This may be used for both practitioner-written orders as well as oral orders.
4. The IHCO shall not approve a prisoner to participate in this self-medication program if the superintendent or designee has made a determination that security constraints prohibit that prisoner or all prisoners from participating in this self-medication program. Security staff shall notify the IHCO in writing of any such determinations. The IHCO will not have to routinely clear authorization for self-medication through security.
5. Medications which are not available as SM-KOP are:
tricyclic antidepressants, controlled substances, oral liquids (except cough syrup and antacids) and injectables.
6. The prisoner will obtain his/her medication property initially from medical staff. The prisoner will sign on the Medication Administration Chart that he/she has received the medication, knows how to take the medication, and will report any significant side effects to medical staff.
7. The prisoner will be permitted to possess one container for each medication. The prisoner will be responsible to take his or her own medication at the correct time. There will not be any documentation of each dose taken except for the documentation in the medication administration chart at the time the medication is given to the prisoner.

8. Except for the 1-2 day container (in which the prisoner puts his/her medication), the pharmacy-issued medication container must be labeled with the appropriate pharmacy label and will be marked SM-KOP.
9. When the prisoner has a one-week supply of medication remaining of a 30-day prescription, he/she will return one of the two peel-off labels to medical staff so that a new supply can be ordered if the medication is to be continued. The peel-off label will be affixed to a 4-part prescription sheet and sent to the pharmacy to reorder the medication.
10. For the 1-2 day SM-KOP, the medical staff will give the pills to the prisoner from the pharmacy-issued medication container for the prisoner to place into the appropriate section of his/her 1-2 day container. The prisoner's name will be on the container. The prisoner is to bring the container back to medical as instructed by medical staff.
11. If there are no refills left and the medication is to be continued, the prisoner must make an appointment with the practitioner.
12. Thirty-day medication containers may not be possessed by the prisoner more than three days after the expiration date on the pharmacy label. When a 30 day medication container is empty, staff will return the container to the medical section. If the medication is to be continued, a new container will be distributed at that time.
13. KOP medications will be stored by the prisoners in a location specified by the institution's superintendent. Unless the superintendent permits the 1-2 day containers to be carried on person, these containers must also be stored in the specified location.
14. If an officer has reason to believe that a prisoner is not taking his or her medication or is taking it improperly, the officer shall notify medical staff in writing.