

OHSU Health Care System

Sample Medications

Effective Date: August 20, 2009

No: HC-CLN-MPI-P038

POLICY:

(Clin 05.23)

PROCEDURE:

OHSU Healthcare hospital, ambulatory care practice, emergency department, and perioperative area staff are prohibited from receiving and accepting supplies of sample medications from pharmaceutical representatives for redistribution or dispensing with the single exception of the Casey Eye Institute Ambulatory Surgery (see, "[Post Operative Kit Protocol](#)" addendum).

Definitions:

Medications: includes prescription medications, sample medications, herbal remedies, vitamins, nutraceuticals, over-the-counter drugs, vaccines, diagnostic and contrast agents used on or administered to persons to diagnose, treat, or prevent disease or other abnormal conditions; radioactive medications; respiratory therapy treatments; parenteral nutrition; blood derivatives; intravenous solutions (plain, with electrolytes and/or drugs); and any product designated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [<http://www.fda.gov/>] as a drug. The definition of medication does not include enteral nutrition solutions (which are considered food products), oxygen, and other medical gases.

Note: The FD&C Act defines drugs by their intended use, as "(A) articles intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease... and (B) articles (other than food) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of man or other animals" [FD&C Act, sec. 201(g)(1)].

National Drug Code (NDC) Number: The easiest discriminator to use in determining if a product is a drug is the NDC number, which is part of the FDA approved labelling. If the bottle/box/tube has an NDC number on it, it is a drug. If there is not one, then it is a cosmetic or food. For example, bottles of Lubriderm, Eucerin, Cetaphil and White Petrolatum (generic Vaseline) in the OHSU Pharmacy all have NDC numbers and therefore are considered medications.

National Drug Code Directory: The FDA searchable website [<http://www.fda.gov/cder/ndc/>] for medications used to determine if a product is a drug and obtain more information on a medication.

Exception Monitoring:

CEI Perioperative Services will report to the Medication Safety Committee at least quarterly on compliance with the exception protocol. The exception privilege will be revoked if non-compliance is evidenced for two successive quarters.

Bibliography:

- Joint Commission Standards, Medication Management
- Food, Drug, and Cosmetic (FD&C) Act, sec. 201(g)(1) [<http://www.fda.gov/opacom/laws/fdact/fdact1.htm>]
- The National Drug Code Directory [<http://www.fda.gov/cder/ndc/>], Center for Drug Investigation and Research, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Related Forms:

- [Sample Medications Addendum: CEI Post Operative Kit Protocol](#)
- [OHSU Sales Representative Policy \(Adm 01.12\)](#)

Supersedes:

May 15, 1997; Reviewed 5/7/99; March 2001 Amb-Risk 6.02; August 20, 2001; March 4, 2004 formerly R&R IV.15; September, 2007

Reviewed:

36 Months

Author:

Ambulatory Care Administration Medication Safety Committee

Review Committee:

Professional Board

Approved By:

Professional Board (clin - adm)

Document History:

Updated:

- [May 20, 2010](#)
- [August 20, 2009](#)