

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>County of Sacramento</b>  <b>Department of Health Services</b>  <b>Division of Behavioral Health Services</b>  <b>Policy and Procedure</b></p>	Policy Issuer (Unit/Program)	BHS-CMH-YDF
	Policy Number	07-03
	Effective Date	10/2009
	Revision Date	07/2017
Title: Emergency Administration of Psychotropic Medication	Functional Area: Psychotropic Medication	
Approved By:		
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**Background/Context:**

Title 15, Section 1439 requires the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) health administrator/responsible physician, in cooperation with the behavioral/mental health director and the facility administrator, to develop and implement written policies and procedures governing the use of voluntary and involuntary psychotropic medications. Section 1439 allows for a youth who is found by a health care provider to be an imminent danger to themselves or others by reason of a mental disorder may be involuntarily given psychotropic medication immediately for the preservation of life or the prevention of serious bodily harm and when there is insufficient time to obtain consent from the parent, guardian or court before the threatened harm would occur. It is not necessary for harm to take place or become unavoidable prior to initiating treatment.

**Definitions:**

Psychotropic medication: those drugs that are used to treat psychiatric symptoms. Drugs used to reduce the toxic side-effects of psychotropic medications are not included.

**Purpose:**

The objective of this policy and procedure is to establish the protocol by which Juvenile Justice Institutions Mental Health Team (JJIMHT) physician(s) utilize to order the use of emergency psychotropic medications within YDF.

**Details:**

1. Guidelines for Use of Emergency Psychotropic Medication
  - A. For emergency use of psychotropic medication, the assessment and determination must be made by an on-site physician.
  - B. If the physician is not on-site, Juvenile Correctional Health Services nursing staff or JJIMHT clinical staff will notify the on-call physician.
  - C. The physician on-call may elect to make an on-site visit to assess and determine the need for emergency psychotropic medication.

- D. The assessment and diagnosis must support the use of emergency psychotropic medication.
- E. The physician must enter an order for emergency psychotropic medication in the youth's electronic medical record.
- F. Nursing staff should be available to observe and assess for any adverse reaction(s) to the psychotropic medication(s). The nurse administering the emergency psychotropic medication will document the following: date, time, reason, name and amount of medication, route and site, side-effects or adverse reactions and results of the medication.
- G. Probation staff are responsible for physical restraint and/or use of appropriate level of force to ensure the safety of the youth and employees prior to and during the administration of emergency psychotropic medication.
- H. Administration of psychotropic medication is not allowed for coercion, discipline, convenience or retaliation.
- I. All involuntary administrations of psychotropic medications will be reviewed by the facility administrator or designee and the health administrator.

**Related Policies:**

BHS-CMH-YDF-07-01-Psychotropic Medication Guidelines

BHS-CMH-YDF-07-04-Physician's Orders

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