

 <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	07-04
	Effective Date	10/2009
	Revision Date	07/2017
Title: Physician's Orders		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 psychotropic medications within YDF.

**Details:**

1. Standing Physician Orders
  - A. All physician orders shall be entered into the youth's electronic medical record (EHR) by the physician making the order or electronically co-signed by the physician for verbal/telephone orders taken and entered by Juvenile Medical Services (JMS) nursing staff.
  - B. Standing orders may include but not limited to: medication(s), monthly height/weight, procure past medical records, laboratory tests, exercise-heat risk precautions and black-box label warning.

2. Verbal and/or Telephone Orders
  - A. Physicians may issue verbal or telephone orders.
  - B. The Juvenile Correctional Health Services nursing staff will repeat the order to the physician to verify accuracy prior to entering the order, date and time the order was received in the youth's electronic medical record.
  - C. The physician will review the order and electronically co-sign the order in the youth's electronic medical record within 72 hours.
3. Medication Orders
  - A. All physicians' orders shall be entered into the youth's medical EHR by the physician making the order or electronically co-signed by the physician for verbal/telephone orders taken by nursing staff.
  - B. Voluntary medication orders must include: medication name, dosage, route of administration, frequency and duration.
  - C. Pro re Nata (PRN) medication orders must include: medication name, dosage, indication for use, frequency of administration, routes of administration and maximum number of doses within a 24 hour period.
  - D. The physician should state whether a change in the dose or frequency of medication is an increase or a decrease.
  - E. The physician shall make explicit orders to discontinue previous medication(s); nursing staff will not assume previous medication(s) are to be discontinued.

**Related Policies:**

BHS-CMH-YDF-02-02-Informed Consent

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

BHS-CMH-YDF-07-03-Emergency Administration of Psychotropic Medication

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