

Medications: Profiles PC.M60

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L-Tag(s): 530, 688

POLICY: A patient-specific medication profile is maintained for each patient and reviewed, at a minimum, every fifteen days.

PROCEDURE:

1. When a patient is admitted to hospice, a medication profile is initiated to document all the patient's prescription, over-the-counter drugs, herbal remedies and other alternative treatments that could affect drug therapy.
2. The patient's medication profile is reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Group (IDG) whenever there is a significant change and, at a minimum, every fifteen days.
3. During the medication profile review, and whenever necessary, the IDG confers with an individual with education and training in medication management to ensure that medications meet each patient's needs.
4. The patient's medication profile review includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. determining accuracy and completeness of the profile;
 - b. monitoring medication effectiveness, actual or potential medication-related effects and untoward interactions;
 - c. ensuring appropriateness of the medication, the dose, route of administration, and dosage schedule;
 - d. ensuring that the prescribed medications are safe and appropriate and the most cost-effective solution for the patient's symptom(s);
 - e. determining if there are medications that have been or may be discontinued;
 - f. identifying duplicate drug therapy and drug therapy associated with laboratory monitoring;
 - g. reviewing lab values to ensure appropriate medication dosing; and
 - h. assisting with the determination of which medications are and are not related to the patient's terminal diagnosis.
5. Changes to the patient's medication profile will be communicated to the hospice pharmacy provider and the hospice medication profile in the electronic medical record will be reconciled with the pharmacy profile with all changes

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