March 29, 2020

GUIDANCE

Delivery of Pharmacist Verified Medication, by Department of Public Health (DPH) Licensed Hospital Employees, from the Hospital Pharmacy, to Automated Dispensing Machines (ADMs) located on the hospital’s campus.

Medication (over-the-counter, noncontrolled, and controlled substances) from the pharmacy department within a licensed hospital may be delivered by individuals who have an active license with the Department of Public Health (DPH), and are employees of the hospital to ADMs for purposes of restocking provided the following is in place:

1. The licensed hospital employee has received training from a licensed pharmacist to deliver, access, and restock the hospital’s automated dispensing cabinet.
2. The licensed pharmacist has verified the medication(s) prior to it leaving the pharmacy.
3. A Chain-of-Custody log is maintained, and the DPH licensed hospital employee receiving the medication signs the medication out of the pharmacy department. The log shall include the name of the employee, date and time received.
4. The DPH licensed hospital employee has been granted access to the ADMs by the ADM Pharmacy Manager.
5. The ADM utilizes barcode scanning to aide in the restocking of the machine.
6. The DPH licensed hospital employee has obtained a printout of all controlled substance medications restocked by them into the ADMs and has provided the printout to a pharmacist for the purpose of comparing the controlled substance medications signed out by the DPH licensed hospital employee to what was stocked by the DPH Licensed hospital employee.
7. All discrepancies shall be resolved per protocol or reported to the Drug Control Division as required.

DPH licensed hospital employees delivering medication pursuant to this guidance document do not count toward the pharmacist-to-pharmacy technician ratio.