

657—7.11 (124,126,155A) Outpatient services. No prescription drugs shall be dispensed to patients in a hospital outpatient setting. If a need is established for the dispensing of a prescription drug to an outpatient, a prescription drug order shall be provided to the patient to be filled at a pharmacy of the patient's choice.

7.11(1) Definitions. For the purposes of this rule, the following definitions shall apply:

“Emergency department patient” means an individual who is examined and evaluated in the emergency department.

“Outpatient” means an individual examined and evaluated by a prescriber who determined the individual's need for the administration of a drug or device, which individual presents to the hospital outpatient setting with a prescription or order for administration of a drug or device. “Outpatient” does not include an emergency department patient.

“Outpatient medication order” means a written order from a prescriber or an oral or electronic order from a prescriber or the prescriber's authorized agent for administration of a drug or device. An outpatient medication order may authorize continued or periodic administration of a drug or device for a period of time and frequency determined by the prescriber or by hospital policy, not to exceed legal limits for the refilling of a prescription drug order.

7.11(2) Administration in the outpatient setting. Drugs shall be administered only to outpatients who have been examined and evaluated by a prescriber who determined the patient's need for the drug therapy ordered.

a. Accountability. A system of drug control and accountability shall be developed and supervised by the pharmacist in charge and the facility's outpatient services committee, or a similar group or person responsible for policy in the outpatient setting. The system shall ensure accountability of drugs incidental to outpatient nonemergency therapy or treatment. Drugs shall be administered only in accordance with the system.

b. Controlled substances. Controlled substances maintained in the outpatient setting are kept for use by or at the direction of prescribers for the nonemergency therapy or treatment of outpatients. In order to receive a controlled substance, a patient shall be examined in the outpatient setting or in an alternate practice setting or office by a prescriber who shall determine the patient's need for the drug. If the patient is examined in a setting outside the outpatient setting, the prescriber shall provide the patient with a written prescription or order to be presented at the hospital outpatient setting.

c. Outpatient medication orders. A prescriber may authorize, by outpatient medication order, the periodic administration of a drug to an outpatient.

(1) Schedule II controlled substance. An outpatient medication order for administration of a Schedule II controlled substance shall be written and, except as provided in rule 657—10.25(124) regarding the issuance of multiple Schedule II prescriptions, may authorize the administration of an appropriate amount of the prescribed substance for a period not to exceed 90 days from the date ordered.

(2) Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance. An outpatient medication order for administration of a Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance shall be written and may be authorized for a period not to exceed six months from the date ordered.

(3) Noncontrolled substance. An outpatient medication order for administration of a noncontrolled prescription drug may be authorized for a period not to exceed 18 months from the date ordered.