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| 1. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY:

Statement of Purpose: Medications will be appropriately prescribed and monitored with the informed consent of the patient.1. SCOPE:

This policy covers Psychiatry.1. ADMINISTRATION:
2. All patients who choose this treatment will be medically evaluated for medication therapy
3. The physician should determine if there is any medical contraindication or allergy to the medication, clearly stating on the progress notes whether or not a medical contraindication exists, and if so, the reason why.
4. If there is no medical contraindication to the use of medication, and the patient expresses a willingness to be placed on it, the physician should write in the progress notes the name and dose of the medication and the target symptoms, and that the risks and benefits have been discussed with the patient.
5. A medication information sheet governing to the use of medications will be given to the patient and family when applicable at the same time the first dose is administered. When applicable, information will include the following: name and description of the medication, the dosage, route of administration, and duration of drug therapy; special directions and precautions for the preparation, self-administration and use of the medication including safeguards against microbial contamination( when applicable); and appropriate compounding and administration techniques (when applicable);intended use and expected actions of the drug therapy; common severe side effects, adverse effects, or interactions and therapeutic contraindications that may be encountered, including cessation of medication and specific action to take if they occur; techniques for the self-monitoring of drug therapy; proper storage and expiration dating; prescription refill information; action to be taken in the event of a missed dose; proper disposal of unused or expired medications; the safe and effective use of medical equipment and/or supplies, (when applicable); instruction on potential drug-food interaction and counseling on nutrition intervention and/or modified diets, as appropriate; habilitation and/or rehabilitation techniques to facilitate adaptation to and/or functional independence in the environment. If needed; basic safety; access to community resources, as appropriate; and other resources available to meet the identified needs.
6. The use of medications should be discussed with the patient’s significant others when appropriate. All information will be presented in ways that are understandable to the individual and/or family.
7. The patient will sign an “Informed Consent for Use of Medication in “Treatment” form and a controlled substance contract.
8. Physician will provide the patient with the appropriate prescription that is legible and meets the licensure guidelines. A triplicate prescription will be required for certain controlled medications.
9. Patient will scheduled for periodic follow-up appointments so that medication effects can be checked, side effects determined and doses adjusted.
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