

JSAS HEALTHCARE, INC.

POLICY & PROCEDURE – MEDICAL

PRESCRIPTION VERIFICATION AND MONITORING

POLICY

Patients must advise medical/nursing staff of all medications prescribed by an outside physician.

Patients prescribed medication that have the potential for abuse (CDS) are required to inform their treating physician that they are on medication-assisted treatment (MAT). Medical/nursing staff must receive verification from the treating physician that he/she is aware the patient is on MAT.

PURPOSE

To make medical/nursing staff aware of prescribed medication the patient is taking, and to coordinate medical care and ensure patient safety.

PROCEDURE

Medical department will ask all patients if they are taking any prescribed ancillary medications.

In order to more closely screen for CDS prescriptions abuse among patients, the New Jersey Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) will be checked at admission to long-term treatment (greater than 30 days), prior to receipt of the first earned take-home, during pregnancy, upon medical review of the Annual Nursing Assessment, and, for cause. The physician accessing the PMP will complete the “Prescription Monitoring Program Review” form. If there is suspicion of abuse or unreported CDS prescriptions, copies of the PMP print-out will be given to the Medical Director, Clinical Director, Clinic Supervisor and the primary counselor for further review by treatment team. Original forms will be filed in the patient’s medical chart.

Patients who are taking prescribed medications will bring all medications to the nurse. If the medication has no abuse potential, it will be noted on “Non-CDS Medications” form and filed in patient’s medical chart for physician review.

When the medication presented is a CDS, and is being prescribed for a period *less than two* (2) months, the Nurse will complete the Prescription Verification Form and give patient a copy of a memo from the Medical Director outlining this policy (see – Prescription Verification – Memo to Patient). Nurse will submit completed Prescription Verification Form to medical personnel along with a copy of patient’s drug screen results. Medical personnel will review form and results of drug screens. Based upon his/her assessment, physician may request to see the patient for further evaluation.

When the medication presented is a CDS, and is being prescribed for a period of *more than two* (2) months or for a chronic condition, the Nurse will complete the Prescription Verification Form and give patient a copy of a memo from the Medical Director outlining this policy (see – Prescription Verification – Memo to Patient). The patient will be asked to advise his/her physician that he/she is on MAT, and bring in letter from the physician verifying that the physician is aware of the patient’s MAT status. This letter must be submitted to the medical/nursing staff within four (4) weeks of the request. Completed form will be forwarded to the Medical Secretary for verification tracking and filing.

If the patient refuses to get a letter from the physician, the patient will be required to see a JSAS physician to discuss the matter. In most cases, the physician will ask the patient to sign a release of information (see Prescription Verification – Records Release). If a records release is signed, a letter will be sent to the prescribing physician by the date agreed and specified on the records release. If patient refuses to sign the records release, the issue will be brought to the Clinical/Medical Intervention Team (CMI) for review.