

**481—51.11(135B) Pharmaceutical service.**

**51.11(1) *General requirements.*** Hospital pharmaceutical services shall be licensed in accordance with Iowa board of pharmacy rules.

**51.11(2) *Medication administration.*** All drugs and biologicals must be administered by, or under the supervision of, nursing or other trained personnel in accordance with hospital policies and procedures. The person assigned the responsibility of medication administration must complete the entire procedure by personally preparing the dose from a multiple-dose container or using a prepackaged unit dose, personally administering it to the patient, and observing the act of the medication being taken.

**51.11(3) *Standing orders.*** Standing orders for drugs may be used for specified patients when authorized by the prescribing practitioner. These standing orders shall be in accordance with policies and procedures established by the appropriate committee within each hospital. At a minimum, the standing orders shall:

- a. Specify the clinical situations under which the drug is to be administered;
- b. Specify the types of medical conditions of the patients for whom the standing orders are intended;
- c. Be reviewed and revised by the hospital's pharmacy and therapeutics or similar committee on a regular basis as specified by hospital policies and procedures;
- d. Be specific as to the drug, dosage, route, and frequency of administration; and
- e. Be dated, authorized by signature or other secure electronic method by the prescribing practitioner within a period not to exceed 30 days following a patient's discharge, and included in the patient's medical record.

**51.11(4) *Self-administration of medications.*** Patients shall only be permitted to self-administer medications when specifically ordered by the prescribing practitioner and the prescribing practitioner has determined this practice is safe for the specific patient. The hospital shall develop policies and procedures regarding storage and documentation of the administration of drugs.

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