



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

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Mark A. Hackel
County Executive

COMPLIANCE ALERT

John L. Kinch
Executive Director

Date: December 18, 2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Louis J. Burdi
Chairperson

To: Macomb County Community Mental Health Workforce Employees
and Providers (via email)

From: Kimberly Cope,  Corporate Compliance Officer

Joan Flynn
Vice-Chairperson

RE: Verbal Prescription Orders

Linda K. Busch
Secretary-Treasurer

Please be advised that **ALL** MCCMH network providers, including psychiatrists, mid-level practitioners, and nurses must, at all times, comply with MCCMH MCO policy, executive directives, compliance alerts, applicable law, rules, and regulations regarding verbal prescription orders. As such, the following requirements are mandatory:

Patricia Bill
Marilyn Brown
Nick Ciaramitaro
Ken DeBeaussart
Rose Ann Mrosewske
Brian Negovan
Elisabeth M. Sierawski
Kathy Tocco
Kathy D. Vosburg

1. Face-to-face medication verbal orders are not permitted unless an urgent/emergent situation exists that requires the immediate *administration* of an emergency medication.
2. Nursing telephone verbal orders are only permitted when there is a medical emergency or life threatening situation and when an ordering practitioner is not at a MCCMH work location and the ordering practitioner is physically unable to enter the orders in a timely manner without impacting the safety and quality of consumer care. Rare situations shall exist when an onsite or offsite ordering practitioner is unable to e-prescribe or call in prescriptions to a pharmacy.
 - a. A medical emergency is defined as an unforeseen combination of circumstances, or its resulting state, that calls for immediate action. A sudden bodily alteration that is likely to require immediate medical attention.
3. Verbal orders must be authenticated by the prescribing practitioner on the next scheduled work day. Authenticating a verbal order must not exceed 48 hours from the time the order had been processed.
4. The prescribing practitioner must e-prescribe as their routine method of ordering. Telephone prescriptions orders may be used only in the event of an emergency situation when the prescribing practitioner is not at a MCCMH work location and e-prescribing is unavailable.
5. The prescribing practitioner shall, within **forty-eight (48) hours** of authorizing an emergency oral prescription for **Schedule II Controlled Substances**, compose and deliver, either by mail or in person, to the dispensing pharmacist a written prescription for the emergency quantity which shall contain all necessary information including a manually signed signature.



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6. The prescribing practitioner shall, within **seven (7) days** of authorizing an emergency oral prescription for **Schedule III-V controlled Substances**, compose and deliver, either by mail or in person, to the dispensing pharmacist a written prescription for the emergency quantity which shall contain all necessary information including a manually signed signature.