Procedure · HC-SOP-006 · Version 1.0 · Approved by the ASF Expert Committee

Supports: 29.19

At a glance

- Medicines belonging to each person are stored separately and labelled with the owner’s name.
- Medicines are checked against the owner before each administration.
- A controlled medicine is stored securely and recorded (PHM-FRM-002).
- Any medicine given to the wrong person is reported at once.
- Stop and get help straight away if: a husband’s heart tablets are given to his wife.

1. Purpose

To prevent one household member taking another’s medicine (29.19).

2. Scope

Applies to	Clinical and support staff in the hospital
Locations	All wards, clinics and departments of the facility
When	Whenever the activity described is carried out
Does not apply to	Activities covered by another document listed in section 15

3. Definitions

Term	Meaning
Clinical lead	The doctor or nurse in charge of the area at the time

4. Background

Medicines for different people in the same home can be mixed up, especially by an aide who is not familiar with the household. Storing each person’s medicines separately prevents that.

5. Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility	Competence
Clinical lead for home care	Owns the storage rule	Clinician
Caregiver	Checks owner and medicine before each task	Staff

6. Materials and equipment

Item	Requirement	Condition
Records and forms named in this document	Current version	Checked before use

7. Safety

- Stop and call for help if a patient is at immediate risk. Do not delay urgent care to complete paperwork.

8. Before you start

- Confirm the forms and equipment named in this document are available and current.

9. Procedure

Step 1. Separate and label.

- Store each person’s medicines separately, labelled with the owner’s name.

Key point: Separated.

Step 2. Check before giving.

- Check the owner and the medicine before each administration.

Key point: Checked.

Step 3. Report errors.

- Report any medicine given to the wrong person at once under INC-POL-001.

Key point: Reported.

10. Decision points

- No decision points in this procedure.

11. Special situations

Situation	Action
Out of hours	Follow the same steps. Use the on-call contact on the wall of the area.

12. Escalation

- Any serious problem goes to the duty clinical lead at once and to the clinical director the same day.

13. Monitoring

Measure	Target	Frequency	Owner	If not met

Households with medicines separated and labelled	100%	Monthly	Clinical lead for home care	Escalate to medical director

14. Records

Record	Kept in	Retention
Record named in this document	Patient record or the area file	the period set by the facility’s records policy years

15. Training

- Staff are trained in this document at induction and refreshed each year, with a recorded competency check.

16. Related documents

ID	Title	Use
PHM-FRM-002	Controlled medicines register (existing, reused)	Register

17. Evidence

Reference	Note
E-009	Based on the WHO Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016-2030, WHO Integrated care for older people (ICOPE) guidelines (2017), and WHO guidance on migrant health.
E-006	ASF Policy Framework v1.2. Adapted.
E-009	ASF Expert Committee consensus.

18. Change history

Version	Date	What changed	Approval
1.0	the date of approval	First version	set Expert Committee approval

E-learning for this document

- **Medication Safety: Operating SOP-MED-01 End to End** (T-08)

References

- Accréditation Sans Frontières (2026). ASF Policy Framework v1.2. (E-006)
- Accréditation Sans Frontières (2026). ASF Expert Committee consensus on Standard 1. (E-009)

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