

DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC AND OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

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Distribution of Narcotic and Psychotropic substances and their storage:

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances have several medical and scientific uses. However, they can be and are also abused and trafficked. India's approach towards Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is enshrined in Article 47 of the Constitution of India which mandates that the 'State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health'

Purpose:

To provide guidelines governing adequate control for procurement, proper storage, dispensing and record keeping of Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs in Hospital.

Scope:

All the important activities related to the procurement, storage, dispensing and record keeping of Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs in accordance with the Delhi Narcotic Drug Rules, 1985 as well as Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules framed there under Definition: a) Narcotic Drugs are the addictive drugs that reduce the user's perception of pain and induce euphoria (a feeling of exaggerated and unrealistic well-being). They are substances that lead to increasing tolerance and physiological dependence. They have a potential for abuse and/or addiction. b) Psychotropic Drugs - Any drug capable of affecting the mind, emotions, and behavior.

Storage: The Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs must be stored under lock and key in a separate cupboard.

- Strict compliance of statutory requirements must be adhered to as provided under the Narcotic
- Drugs Rules, 1985, Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940, Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and Pharmacy Act, 1948.
- Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances must only be dispensed by a pharmacist against a proper prescription of a doctor authorized for the purpose.
- Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances must be procured and stored in such a manner so as to preclude their falling into the hands of unauthorized persons.
- The storage area for the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances may be opened and accessed by specific Pharmacist in-charge and Nursing Sister in-charge of respective department.
- Cupboard or safe in which narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are stored may be opened and accessed only when substances belonging to these categories are being placed into or taken out from the cupboard or room.
- Pharmacist in-charge must check physically at least once daily the stock of narcotic and psychotropic drugs stored. The same must be recorded in stock register and verified by the officer in-charge with signature and date.

- The prescribing practitioner shall be responsible in case the prescription does not conform to statutory regulations. Nursing station shall ensure the entry of batch number in the prescription form while administering.

- Appropriate registers shall be maintained to have information on usage. A proper record of their uses, administration and disposal shall be maintained at all the places wherever narcotic drugs are stored. The narcotic drugs register must incorporate a record of all receipt and issue involving narcotic drugs. The narcotic drugs register must be a bound register with consecutively numbered pages. A separate page must be used for each narcotic drug.

- Pharmacist shall be notified if any medicines or register is missing.

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