

I. Policy

When a patient needs to continue on medications after discharge, it is the expectation that the hospital will provide prescriptions for the patient that can be filled out-patient. In extenuating situations, the hospital may provide patients with a supply of medications at discharge for a period of time up to but no more than 72 hours from discharge.

II. Procedure—Process at Discharge

- A. At discharge, a patient should receive prescriptions for the medications needed for the length of time as determined appropriate and safe by the hospital physician. It will be the patient's responsibility to get the prescriptions filled.
- B. If it is determined by the physician that the patient needs 1 to 3 days of medications before they can fill their prescription(s), the patient may be supplied by the hospital with enough medications for up to a maximum of 72 hours from discharge. The physician should not automatically assume a supply of medications is needed but should consult with social work staff to assess patient needs.
- C. Hospital social workers should make every effort to insure that those patients who qualify for third-party reimbursement (i.e., Medicaid, Medicare, Insurance) have access to that coverage when they are discharged.
- D. If the patient has no resources, hospital social workers should make every effort to connect the patient, prior to discharge, with community based resources that assist with medications.

Osawatome State Hospital

Rainbow Mental Health Facility

By: _____

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