

Sentinel Event Alert #52: Preventing infection from the misuse of vials

Joint Commission requirements relevant to the use of vials

HOSPITALS

Human Resources (HR)

HR.01.05.03: Staff participate in ongoing education and training.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

IC.01.04.01: Based on the identified risks, the hospital sets goals to minimize the possibility of transmitting infections. **Note:** See [NPSG.07.01.01](#) for hand hygiene guidelines.

IC.01.05.01: The hospital has an infection prevention and control plan.

IC.02.01.01: The hospital implements its infection prevention and control plan.

Leadership (LD)

LD.04.04.05: The hospital has an organization-wide, integrated patient safety program within its performance improvement activities.

Medication Management (MM)

MM.03.01.01 EP 7: All stored medications and the components used in their preparation are labeled with the contents, expiration date, and any applicable warnings. **Note:** This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.03.01.01 EP 10: Medications in patient care areas are available in the most ready-to-administer forms commercially available or, if feasible, in unit-doses that have been repackaged by the pharmacy or a licensed repackager.

MM.05.01.11: The hospital safely dispenses medications.

MM.06.01.01: The hospital safely administers medications.

MM.08.01.01: The hospital evaluates the effectiveness of its medication management system. **Note:** This evaluation includes reconciling medication information. (Refer to [NPSG.03.06.01](#) for more information)

AMBULATORY CARE

Human Resources (HR)

HR.01.05.03: Staff participate in ongoing education and training.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

IC.01.04.01: Based on the identified risks, the organization sets goals to minimize the possibility of transmitting infections. **Note:** See [NPSG.07.01.01](#) for hand hygiene guidelines.

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IC.01.05.01: The organization plans for preventing and controlling infections.

IC.02.01.01: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities.

Leadership (LD)

LD.04.04.05: The organization has an organization-wide, integrated patient safety program.

Medication Management (MM)

MM.03.01.01 EP 7: All stored medications and the components used in their preparation are labeled with the contents, expiration date, and any applicable warnings. **Note:** This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.05.01.11: The organization safely dispenses medications.

MM.06.01.01: The organization safely administers medications.

MM.08.01.01: The organization evaluates the effectiveness of its medication management system. **Note:** This evaluation includes reconciling medication information. (Refer to [NPSG.03.06.01](#) for more information)

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

Human Resources (HR)

HR.01.05.03: Staff participate in ongoing education and training.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

IC.01.04.01: Based on the identified risks, the organization sets goals to minimize the possibility of transmitting infections. **Note:** See [NPSG.07.01.01](#) for hand hygiene guidelines.

IC.01.05.01: The organization plans for preventing and controlling infections.

IC.02.01.01: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities.

Leadership (LD)

LD.04.04.05: The organization has an organization-wide, integrated patient safety program.

Medication Management (MM)

MM.03.01.01 EP 7: For organizations that store medications: The organization labels stored medications with the contents, expiration date, and any applicable warnings provided by the pharmacy. **Note:** This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.05.01.11: The organization safely dispenses medications.

MM.06.01.01: The organization safely administers medications.

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MM.08.01.01: The organization evaluates the effectiveness of its medication management system. **Note:** This evaluation includes reconciling medication information. (Refer to [NPSG.03.06.01](#) for more information)

HOME CARE

Human Resources (HR)

HR.01.05.03: Staff participate in ongoing education and training.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

IC.01.04.01: Based on the identified risks, the organization sets goals to minimize the possibility of transmitting infections. **Note:** See [NPSG.07.01.01](#) for hand hygiene guidelines.

IC.01.05.01: The organization plans for preventing and controlling infections.

IC.02.01.01: The organization implements infection prevention and control activities.

Leadership (LD)

LD.04.04.05: The organization has an organization-wide, integrated patient safety program.

Medication Management (MM)

MM.03.01.01 EP 7: For organizations that store medications at their site(s): All stored medications and the components used in their preparation are labeled with the contents, expiration date, and any applicable warnings. **Note:** This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications. (See applicability grid.)

MM.05.01.11: The organization safely dispenses medications.

MM.06.01.01: The organization safely administers medications.

MM.08.01.01: The organization evaluates the effectiveness of its medication management system. **Note:** This evaluation includes reconciling medication information. (Refer to [NPSG.03.06.01](#) for more information)

NURSING CARE CENTERS

Human Resources (HR)

HR.01.05.03: Staff participate in education and training.

Infection Prevention and Control (IC)

IC.01.04.01: Based on the identified risks, the organization sets goals to minimize the possibility of spreading infections. **Note:** See [NPSG.07.01.01](#) for hand hygiene guidelines.

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IC.01.05.01: The organization has an infection prevention and control plan.

IC.02.01.01: The organization implements its infection prevention and control plan.

Leadership (LD)

LD.04.04.05: The organization has an organization-wide, integrated patient and resident safety program.

Medication Management (MM)

MM.03.01.01 EP 7: All stored medications and the components used in their preparation are labeled with the contents, expiration date, and any applicable warnings. **Note:** This element of performance is also applicable to sample medications.

MM.05.01.11*: The organization safely dispenses medications.

MM.05.01.15 EP 1: If the organization does not operate a pharmacy, the organization has a process for obtaining medications from a pharmacy or licensed pharmaceutical supplier in the most ready-to-administer forms commercially available and, if feasible, in unit doses that will meet patient and resident needs.

MM.06.01.01: The organization safely administers medications.

MM.08.01.01: The organization evaluates the effectiveness of its medication management system. **Note:** This evaluation includes reconciling medication information. (Refer to [NPSG.03.06.01](#) for more information)

* While MM.05.01.11 does not apply to most centers accredited under the Nursing Care Center program, it does apply to Veterans Affairs Community Living Centers (CLC), which are accredited under the Nursing Care Center program.