

Document Details

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Details						
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Medication Storage I	nformation					
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Change Details						
Guidelines created to	educate Service Users, fan	nilies and carers on t	ne storage of med	lication		
Active Date	Author		Owner			
06/04/2020	Blower, Danielle		Administra	tor, System		

Distribution - Copy Holders

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Reviews		

Revision History				
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- /		Guidelines created to educate Service Users, families and carers on the storage of medication	06/04/2020	
		carers on the storage of medication		

Relationships

Related Documents

DOC73	Policy on Administration of High Alert Medication	
HOME 60	Medication Management for Nurses	

Related Standards

Related Standards
Standard Description
Patient Safety Standard (JCI)
Patient Safety Standard (JCI)\ International Patient Safety Goals (IPSGs)
Patient Safety Standard (JCI)\Patient Family Education (PFE)
Patient Safety Standard (JCI)\ Patient Medication Management (PMM)



Proper storage of medication is important to ensure the quality, effectiveness and safety of the medicines. You should always refer to the your pharmacist for correct instruction on storage of medication if you have any concersn when being dispensed

While it is important to have your medications on hand when you need them, it is also necessary to be responsible for their proper use and safekeeping. It is good practice also to keep medications in a dry, cool place that is safe from children and pets.

Some medications require protection from sunlight or need to be keep in your fridge so always read the label or get someone to help read the directions for storage if you have difficulties with your sight. Storing medication in the correct manner will help ensure that your medication stays fresh and is effective for as long as possible, while also limiting the chances of misuse

Oral medications should also where possible be kept separate from medications for extenal use suc as ointments, crams and suppositries and stored as per manufacturer guidelkines

Make sure all medications are stored safely!

Do's and Don'ts Tips on medication Storage

DO ... Read the label, follow the directions and note the expiration date. Go through your all medications every six to 12 months and discard any that are no longer needed and/or are expired.

DO ... Keep it in its original bottle. Prescription and manufacturer bottles are created to protect the medication from light and moisture and are childproofed.

It's also handy to have the original bottle in case you need information from the label — including refill directions.

DO ... Keep all medication (even vitamins) out of reach and out of sight if you have children in the home.

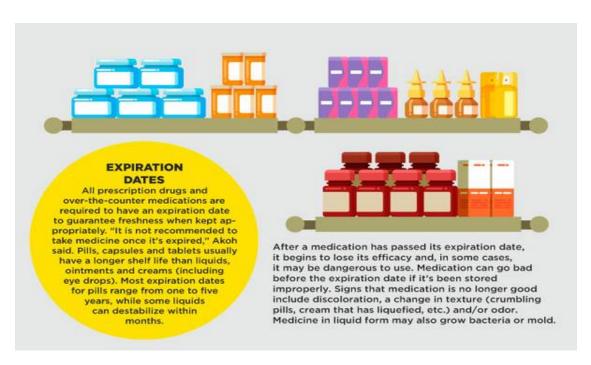
Make sure all the lids are tightly secured. You may also consider using a small locked box or cabinet to store medication for additional safety

DO ... Call your GP or pharmacy if any of your medication has been exposed to liquid, heat or has begun to deteriorate prematurely.

DON'T ... Combine different medications in one bottle.

Moisture tends to linger in bathrooms, even well-ventilated ones, which can compromise medication. Bedrooms, wardrobes and storage areas are better options.

DON'T ... Leave medicine in the car, near the oven/hob or anywhere else it may be subjected to heat.



Useful resource Websites:

https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/qid/nationalsafetyprogrammes

www.cdc.gov