



Clinical Staff Executive Committee

MEDICAL CENTER POLICY NO. 0224

- A. SUBJECT: Provision of Patient Supplies and Pharmaceuticals after Discharge or Clinic Visit
- B. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013 (R)
- C. POLICY:

At the time of discharge or clinic visit of a patient, the University of Virginia Medical Center will assist patients in identifying resources to obtain necessary home supplies to support continuity of care after discharge or clinic visit. The Medical Center does not routinely provide take-home supplies but may do so in specific situations.

D. PROCEDURE:

1. As early as possible in the care delivery or discharge planning process, as outlined in [Medical Center Policy No. 0025 "Discharge Planning"](#), the healthcare team identifies the type of supplies and durable medical equipment needed. Patient choice must be presented by the staff member and documented in the patient record. The University of Virginia contracted vendor for durable medical equipment assists patients and family members to find a medical supply source for continuing medical care supply needs. Prescriptions may be required for these items.
2. The healthcare team may assist patients who do not have a home health or alternative supply provider in accordance to [Medical Center Policy No. 0151 "Patient Choice in Selection of Home Health Agencies"](#) or refer them to their referring physicians or community resources and/or services for direction or assistance.
3. If additional resources are not immediately available and the patient meets the criteria listed below, the Medical Center may provide up to three days of take-home supplies to assist with a patient's continuing care needs. At least one of the following criteria must be verified by the social worker, the nurse case manager, or designated clinical leadership prior to the provision of supplies:
 - a. Patient is discharged with an unmet need for supplies and no access to resources until the next business day.
 - b. Patient is uninsured or underinsured with limited access to resources, based on a formal financial screening process.
 - c. Patient has been referred to a home health agency, but may not be evaluated for services for 1-2 days.

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4. Items fitted to a patient or used during the time of visit in the Medical Center may be given to the patient on discharge. Medical Center equipment or linens may not be given to patients to take home.
5. Tube feeding formula cannot be given as a take-home supply. Patients who require tube feeding formula after discharge or clinic visit may use a prescription to obtain that formula from any outpatient pharmacy or may purchase over-the-counter from a retail setting. A limited supply of nutritional supplements may be given from the clinic at the discretion of the care provider. A limited supply of infant formula may be given at discharge and from the clinic at the discretion of the care provider.
6. Test strips, lancets, and insulins may not be provided as a take home supply. A glucose meter may be provided to patients upon discharge for no charge. Test strips, lancets, and insulin syringes may be obtained by prescription in the Medical Center Outpatient Pharmacy or any outpatient pharmacy.
7. Multi-dose medications may be given as take-home supplies to an inpatient if a discharge prescription is written and the medication is relabeled by the inpatient pharmacy to comply with FDA and Board of Pharmacy labeling requirements. Prescription medications used during a clinic visit will not be given as take-home supplies.
8. Provision of medication samples must comply with [Medical Center Policy No. 0112 "Medication Samples"](#).

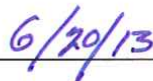
SIGNATURE:



Robert S. Gibson, M.D., President, Clinical Staff



R. Edward Howell, CEO, UVA Medical Center



DATE:

Medical Center Policy No. 0224 (R)

Approved April 3, 2001

Revised March 2004, June 2007, June 2010, June 2013

Approved by Patient Care Committee

Approved by Clinical Staff Executive Committee