



Safer Practice Notice

Status

- Active
- Updated
- Archived

Zone Application

- Provincial
- North
- Edmonton
- Central
- Calgary
- South

Medication Storage: Security and Safety

Medications must be stored in secure areas accessible only to authorized staff and service providers. This is an Accreditation Canada criterion for safe medication storage and directly impacts our ability to protect patients from preventable harm.

It is the responsibility of units to ensure that medication rooms and carts are stored in a secure manner and only accessible to authorized staff and service providers.

Action

All reasonable efforts must be made to store medications in a medication room or location that is secure and only accessible to authorized staff, midwifery staff, and medical staff.

- For the purposes of crash carts –security seals should be used
- Medication storage areas must be dedicated to medications only
- Medication carts (wireless or standard carts) must be locked when not in use and drawers should never be left open allowing for unsafe access by unauthorized persons.
- Medications must never be left or stored in an open space or shelving with potential for unsafe access by unauthorized persons

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It is the professional responsibility of all staff, midwifery staff and medical staff to report unsafe events to a supervisor if witnessed and to support actions to resolve or mitigate the situation in the best interest of patients.