



HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATIN HEALTH
CLUSTER
MATERNITY AND
CHILDREN HOSPITAL

Department:	Pharmaceutical Care Department		
Document:	Multidisciplinary Policy And Procedure (MPP)		
Title:	PRN – Medications Orders		
Applies To:	Pharmacists, Physicians & Nurses		
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1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide guidelines for handling and dispensing of PRN medications ordered by the physician.

2. DEFINITONS:

- 2.1 PRN- Medications: Refers to drugs approved by pharmacy to be dispensed to patients as PRN "As Needed" drugs. The following medications are dispensed to patients as PRN drugs at the Hospital
- 2.1.1 Paracetamol tablet and suppository.
 - 2.1.2 Metoclopramide tablet.
 - 2.1.3 Voltarin tablet.
 - 2.1.4 Laxal tablet.
 - 2.1.5 Brufen tablet.
 - 2.1.6 Lactulose syrup.
 - 2.1.7 Indomethacin cap.
 - 2.1.8 Moxal susp.
 - 2.1.9 Sublingual Isordil, or NTG.
 - 2.1.10 Cough syrup.
 - 2.1.11 Inhalers (e.g. Ventolin).
 - 2.1.12 Mouthwash.
 - 2.1.13 Hyoscine N-Butyl Bromide tabs.
 - 2.1.14 Glycerine suppository.
- 2.2 PRN Medication Order: Are orders from a physician accepted by a pharmacist when the patient's condition requires medication as needed.

3. POLICY:

- 3.1 Inpatient Medications prescribed, as PRN must be dispensed in quantities sufficient for 24 hours (according to frequency) unless the prescriber determine otherwise, to ensure continuity of care and prevents patient suffering.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 PRN drugs are dispensed to patients on the wards for conditions that do not require continuous use of such drugs or for temporary relief of ailments.
- 4.2 PRN medication orders are valid for 24 hours only, unless indicated otherwise by the treating physician to a maximum of 3 days.
- 4.3 PRN medications must be ordered by physician by prescription and should clearly state:
- 4.3.1 Name of medication and dosage form.
 - 4.3.2 Dose.
 - 4.3.3 Route.
 - 4.3.4 Interval between dosages (frequency).

- 4.3.5 Indication.
- 4.3.6 Maximum dose given in 24 hours period.
- 4.3.7 Duration or a stop date when appropriate, to maximum of (3) days.

No.	Drug Name	Dose	Route	Freq.	Status	Indications For 24 Hrs	Doses Given
1	Paracetamol tablet	1gm	P.O.	Q 6 hr PRN	Pain;or Temp	>38.5C.	8 tabs.
2	Isordil (Sublingual) tablet	5mg	S.L.	Q 6 hr PRN	Angina pain		6. tabs.

- 4.4 The nurse must record all relevant information for PRN drugs on the patient medication's chart to assure proper intervals between dosages.
- 4.5 The physician should specify in the order which condition the PRN medication will be given for.
- 4.6 These conditions are monitored and observed by the nursing staff which will warrant the administration of the PRN medication.
- 4.7 Pharmacist must communicate with medication nurse to determine the time limit for PRN order and when the drug should be stopped
- 4.8 Pharmacist should communicate with treating physician if the PRN order exceeded the limited time and requires new prescription.

5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 5.1 Physician's Order Sheet

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 6.1 Physicians: Renew the PRN drugs orders every 24 h when needed.
- 6.2 Pharmacist: Ensure that PRN medication orders are written & dispensed appropriately
- 6.3 Charge nurse: Document all relevant information for PRN drugs on the patient chart.

7. APPENDICES:

- 7.1 N/A

8. REFERENCES:

- 8.1 General Pharmaceutical Care Administration, MOH policy and procedures manual.

9. APPROVALS:

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