



Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Guidance Document

Title:	Processing and Labeling of Certain Outpatient Medications for Administration
Reference:	RCW 18.64.246 , WAC 246-945-016
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Effective Date:	October 19, 2018 (reaffirm Aug 28, 2020)
Supersedes:	Labeling of Outpatient Medication for Administrations, August 3, 2017
Approved:	Tim Lynch, PharmD, MSM, FABC, FASHP Tim Lynch, PharmD, MS, FABC, FASHP, Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Chair

Purpose:

Provide guidance to the inspectors to make note on inspection reports of non-adherence to [RCW 18.64.246](#) for medication labeled for administration by a health care professional to outpatients of a hospital affiliated facility or departments without requiring corrective action. Medications to be administered by a health care professional must meet hospital labeling standards [WAC 246-945-016](#).

Further, the affiliated inpatient electronic medical record system may be used for the medication order information necessary for pharmacy staff to safely conduct a drug utilization review and dispense the product for safe administration by a licensed health care professional.

All medications dispensed for self-administration outside the hospital affiliated facility or department must be labeled according to [RCW 18.64.246](#) and the prescription information must be maintained consistent with outpatient dispensing.

BACKGROUND:

At the August 3, 2017 PQAC meeting the Commission discussed the practice of patients being administered drugs such as parenteral infusions in outpatient clinics and while in an outpatient status. These drugs are administered by a licensed health professional within the scope of their license. The commission discussed [RCW 18.64.246 Prescriptions – Labels – Cover or cap to meet safety standards – Penalty](#), as well as WAC 246-945-016 and 246-945-017

Subsequently there have been questions on whether the medication order information must be transcribed from the affiliated inpatient electronic medical record into an outpatient pharmacy information system. For drugs that will be administered at the affiliated clinic by a health care practitioner, the medication order information available should be sufficient to allow safe delivery of pharmacy services, including drug utilization review, and the safe administration by licensed health professionals.