

**WAC 246-341-0712 Outpatient services—Psychiatric medication mental health services and medication support.** Psychiatric medication mental health services are a variety of activities related to prescribing and administering medication, including monitoring an individual for side effects and changes as needed. These services may only be provided with one of the outpatient mental health services in WAC 246-341-0700 (1)(a) through (e). An agency providing psychiatric medication services may also provide medication support services, described in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

(1) An agency providing psychiatric medication services must:

(a) Ensure that medical direction and responsibility are assigned to a:

(i) Physician who is licensed to practice under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW, and is board-certified or board-eligible in psychiatry;

(ii) Psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP); or

(iii) Physician assistant working with a supervising psychiatrist.

(b) Ensure that the services are provided by a prescriber licensed by the department who is practicing within the scope of that practice;

(c) Ensure that all medications are administered by staff practicing within the scope of their practice;

(d) Have a process by which the medication prescriber informs either the individual, the legally responsible party, or both, and, as appropriate, family members, of the potential benefits and side effects of the prescribed medication(s);

(e) Must ensure that all medications maintained by the agency are safely and securely stored, including assurance that:

(i) Medications are kept in locked cabinets within a well-lit, locked and properly ventilated room;

(ii) Medications kept for individuals on medication administration or self-administration programs are clearly labeled and stored separately from medication samples kept on-site;

(iii) Medications marked "for external use only" are stored separately from oral or injectable medications;

(iv) Refrigerated food or beverages used in the administration of medications are kept separate from the refrigerated medications by the use of trays or other designated containers;

(v) Syringes and sharp objects are properly stored and disposed of;

(vi) Refrigerated medications are maintained at the required temperature; and

(vii) Outdated medications are disposed of in accordance with the regulations of the state board of pharmacy and no outdated medications are retained.

(2) An agency providing psychiatric medication services may utilize a physician or ARNP without board eligibility in psychiatry if unable to employ or contract with a psychiatrist. In this case, the agency must ensure that:

(a) Psychiatrist consultation is provided to the physician or ARNP at least monthly; and

(b) A psychiatrist is accessible to the physician or ARNP for emergency consultation.

(3) Medication support services occur face-to-face and:

(a) Include one-on-one cueing, observing, and encouraging an individual to take medication as prescribed;

(b) Include reporting any pertinent information related to the individual's adherence to the medication back to the agency that is providing psychiatric medication services; and

(c) May take place at any location and for as long as it is clinically necessary.

(4) An agency providing medication support services must:

(a) Ensure that the staff positions responsible for providing either medication monitoring, or delivery services, or both, are clearly identified in the agency's medication support services policy;

(b) Have appropriate policies and procedures in place when the agency providing medication support services maintains or delivers medication to the individual that address:

(i) The maintenance of a medication log documenting medications that are received, prescribed, and dispensed;

(ii) Reasonable precautions that need to be taken when transporting medications to the intended individual and to assure staff safety during the transportation; and

(iii) The prevention of contamination of medication during delivery, if delivery is provided.

(c) Ensure that the individual's clinical record contains the individual service plan, including documentation of medication support services.

[Statutory Authority: 2018 c 201 and 2018 c 291. WSR 19-09-062, § 246-341-0712, filed 4/16/19, effective 5/17/19.]