SECTION F: MEDICATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES
CHAPTER 23: MEDICATION MANAGEMENT

POLICY AND PROCEDURE 23.5 Receiving Telephone Orders

Authorization:
Nursing Executive Committee

Date Effective: May 1, 2018
Scope: All Nurses
Revised: 12/27/2018

Standard of Practice:
The Registered Nurse will ensure that all telephone orders from Physicians/APRNs are accurately received.

Standard of Care:
The patient can expect to receive treatment as accurately ordered by the Physician/APRN.

Policy:
Physician/APRN telephone orders shall be accurately recorded by the Registered Nurse on the Physician’s Order Sheet. Telephone orders should be reserved for appropriate situations and not merely used for staff convenience. Generally these orders should be reserved for situations where the prescriber is not physically on the unit, or where the chart is not available and when delay in giving the order will have a negative impact on patient care.

Procedure:
1. The Registered Nurse who receives a Telephone Order from the Physician/APRN documents the order on the Physician’s Order Sheet, including the date and time of the telephone order, along with the Physician’s/APRN’s name and “telephone order read back”. The abbreviation TORB is used to document that the Telephone Order Read Back policy and procedure has been followed.
   • Example: Dr. M. Smith / N. Nurse RN, TORB…

2. The Registered Nurse read back includes: repeating the name of the drug, dosage, route of administration, and frequency to the Physician/APRN. The Registered Nurse will request that the ordering Physician/APRN provide the correct spelling of medications and that numbers, in relation to dosage, be spelled out to ensure accuracy.

3. The Registered Nurse receives confirmation from the Physician/APRN that the
order read-back is accurately transcribed.

4. If the order is confirmed as accurate, the Registered Nurse flags the order (blue for Ambulatory Care Orders and green for Psychiatric Orders) for the Physician’s/APRN’s signature, date, and time in the chart. This needs to occur within 24 hours.

5. If the order is confirmed as inaccurate, the Registered Nurse restarts the entire process.