### PURPOSE

To define the use of the medication profile in evaluating a patient’s medication regimen, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications, nutrition supplements, herbal remedies, vitamins and minerals.

### POLICY

Patients receiving medications will have a current, accurate medication profile in the clinical record.

Medication profiles will be updated for each change to reflect current medications, new, and/or discontinued medications.

### PROCEDURE

1. Upon admission to the organization, the admitting clinician will initiate a medication profile to document the current medication regimen.
2. A drug regimen review will be performed at the time of admission, when updates to the comprehensive assessments are performed, when care is resumed after a patient has been placed on hold, and with the addition of a new medication. The review will identify drug/food interactions, potential adverse effects and drug reactions, ineffective drug therapy, duplicative drug therapy, and noncompliance with drug therapy.
3. A written copy of the medication schedule/instructions with medication name, dosage and frequency will be provided to the patient and/or caregiver. Education and training will be provided on the medication instructions and schedule. The medication schedule/instructions will indicate which, if any, medications are to be administered by the Home Health Agency personnel or those acting on behalf of the agency.
4. During subsequent home visits, the medication profile will be used as a care planning and teaching guide to ensure that the patient and family/caregiver as well as other clinicians understand the medication regimen.
5. Based on review of the medication profile as well as the written material, changes in the plan of care may be required.
6. Deviations from taking medications as ordered will be documented in clinical notes, and the physician will be notified.