### PURPOSE

To ensure that medications and nutritional therapy solutions are properly handled and stored.

### POLICY

Medications and nutritional therapy solutions will be properly stored in the organization and in patient homes.

### PROCEDURE

1. Storage of medication in the organization will be consistent with applicable law
and regulation.
2. Medications stored will be limited to tuberculin, and influenza and pneumonia vaccines and the like. Nutritional therapies will not be stored.
3. All medications, chemicals, and biologicals will be labeled for contents, with expiration dates clearly identified.
4. Medications will be stored under conditions that enhance stability. Elements to be considered include:
	1. Appropriate storage temperatures, utilizing appropriate thermometers and temperature logs
	2. Protecting solutions from contamination and spoilage
	3. Controlling lighting, ventilation, and humidity
	4. Prevention of moisture, condensation, and mold growth
	5. Thorough cleaning and sanitizing of all surfaces, supplies, and equipment after each use
5. The environment where medications are prepared will be appropriate to the therapy preparations, in the office and patient home. Areas to consider include:
6. Clutter free, clean work surface for medication preparation
7. Medication preparation will only be done by personnel with documented competencies regarding medication. Multi-dose vials will be discarded 30 days after first use.
8. Clinicians with the appropriate competencies will provide instruction and education to the patient and family/caregiver and document evidence of instruction in the clinical/service record.