

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL PHARMACY POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

SECTION XXIII: HOSPITAL DISASTER PLAN CHAPTER 23.1 ADDICTION SERVICES METHADONE DISASTER PLAN

POLICY: The hospital has a policy to procure methadone for its Addiction Services if a disaster is experienced.

PROCEDURE:

In addition to the CVH Emergency Preparedness Plan, ASD has developed a disaster plan specific to addressing the needs of the client being maintained on Methadone to ensure uninterrupted dosing beyond the safety and other client emergency management issues.

Due to the fact that services in ASD are provided around the clock, there will always be staff available to assist with providing information about prescribed medications, including methadone, should questions arise.

In the event of a disaster on the grounds of CVH impacting delivery of services to clients in ASD, the CVH Emergency Preparedness Plan will be adhered to. Designated hospital leadership will make decisions regarding evacuation of ASD clients to other buildings on the grounds.

If the decision is made to evacuate ASD clients, nursing staff, per protocol, will take the unit Kardex with them to be used as a backup document for information on prescribed medications, including methadone. Additionally, the Kardex includes a photograph of each client for the purpose of identification prior to administration of medications.

The PYXIS medication administration system is utilized throughout the hospital. As the file server is not maintained locally, information regarding clients in ASD can be electronically transferred from the units where the clients were, to the new location where they will be able to ensure that all dosing information is available regardless of the new location of the client.

The newly designated PYXIS medstation would need to be brought to the new location and connected to an active data jack and an electric line. All hospital areas have been wired to technical specifications that allow voice and data. Once connected, the data processing technical support unit activates the data jack.

In the event that access to the pharmacy in Page Hall is maintained, a two-week supply of Methadone is typically in stock for emergency situations. The Pharmacy Technician would be able to re-stock the newly designated PYXIS medstation as soon as it is activated. (Refer to the CVH Diversion Control Plan for specifics on delivery of methadone from the distributor to the pharmacy to the individual PYXIS MedStations.)

If the Page Hall pharmacy proved inaccessible for any reason, the primary pharmaceutical provider, Cardinal Health, would be contacted to supply Methadone as needed. However, as they could require up to 24 hours notice to supply the methadone, it might be necessary to obtain methadone from the Greater Bridgeport Community Mental Health Center, with whom we have a reciprocal agreement to provide Methadone to each other in the event of a disaster. Information on how and who to contact at the Greater Bridgeport Community Mental Health Center is available through the CVH pharmacy.

Reviewed 01/17/07, Revised 02/10/09, 02/03/11, 11/26/12, 3/3/14, 1/30/18

