 Department of Health Government of Nunavut		NURSING POLICY, PROCEDURE AND PROTOCOLS	
		Community Health Nursing	
TITLE:		SECTION:	POLICY NUMBER:
Repackaging Pharmaceuticals		Pharmacy	09-010-00
EFFECTIVE DATE:	REVIEW DUE:	REPLACES NUMBER:	NUMBER OF PAGES:
February 10, 2018	February 2021		3
APPLIES TO:			
Community Health Nurses			

POLICY:

Registered nurses may repackaging pharmaceutical agents in accordance with Guidelines 09-010-01.

DEFINITIONS:

Repackaging of pharmaceutical agents is the subdividing or breaking up a manufacturer's original package of a pharmaceutical agent for the purpose of repackaging the pharmaceutical agent into smaller quantities for use by clients.

It is also the placing of already prescribed pharmaceutical agents into a compliance aide, e.g. daily use containers. Repackaging must meet standards that ensure quality and safety of the pharmaceuticals.

PRINCIPLES:

- Repackaging pharmaceutical agents can enhance a particular client's ability to comply with the pharmaceutical agent.
- Registered nurses work collaboratively with pharmacists to reduce the amount of repackaging of prescription pharmaceutical agents in the community health setting.

RELATED POLICIES, GUIDELINES AND LEGISLATION:

Guideline 09-010-01	Repackaging Pharmaceuticals - Container Specification Guidelines
Policy 09-11-00	Labeling Pharmaceutical Agents



REFERENCES:

- Canadian Standards Association. (2000). *Standard: Reclosable Child Resistant Containers*. CAN/CSA-Z76.1-1790.
- College of Pharmacists of British Columbia. (2005). *Standards to Assist Dispensing Practitioners*. Vancouver, BC.
- Food and Drugs Act* R.S.C. 1985, F-27, s. C.01.001(2).
- Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations. (2002). *Medication Management Standards*. Atlanta, GA: Joint Commission Resources.
- Registered Nurses Association of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. (2007). *Bylaw: Dispensing, Compounding and Packaging Drugs*. Yellowknife, NT.



GUIDELINE 09-010-01

CONTAINERS

All prescriptions must be dispensed in a container that is certified as a "child-resistant package" by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

In certain instances, regular closures can be used provided that:

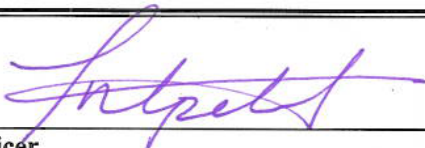

1. The person for whom the prescription is intended directs otherwise
2. In the professional judgment of the practitioner it is not advisable to use a child-resistant package in that particular situation
3. A child-resistant package is not suitable because of the physical form of the drug or the manufacturer's packaging is designed to improve client compliance
4. Child-resistant package is unavailable on the market.

REFERENCES

Canadian Standards Association. (2000). *Standard: Reclosable Child Resistant Containers*. CAN/CSA-Z76.1-1790.

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Approved by:		Effective Date:
Chief Nursing Officer	11 FEB 2011 Date	April 1, 2011
	February 11, 2011 Date	
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services		

