NORTHERN NEVADA ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (NNAMHS)
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: Multiple Dose Vials Dating

NUMBER: NN-MM-31

ORIGINAL DATE: 06/18/2012

REVIEW/REVISE DATE: 07/27/12, 7/18/13

APPROVAL: Cody L. Phinney, Agency Director

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I. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for identifying the date when medication is initially withdrawn from a multi-dose vial and limit the usage date of partially used multiple dose vials after initial entry.

II. POLICY

NNAMHS shall have a directive regarding the dating of multiple dose vials in order to maintain a practice of eliminating the possibility of microbial growth or contamination in multi-dose injectable containers.

III. REFERENCES

1. Joint Commission, Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals, Medication Management Chapter., Current edition.
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2. Center for Disease Control (CDC), Vaccine Storage and Handling Guide, December 2011.

3. CDC, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Regarding Safe Practices for Medical Injections.

4. Sanofi Pasteur Inc, Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative (Mantoux) product information.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Multiple dose vials shall be reserved for single consumer use whenever possible. If not possible, the vial must not be stored in the immediate consumer treatment area.

B. Upon the initial withdrawal of medication from a multiple dose vial, the vial shall be dated and initialed by the person performing this procedure.

C. Once entered, the vial shall be used within twenty-eight (28) days or within the manufacturer's expiration date on the vial, whichever is less.(Exceptions as noted in G and H below)

D. All entries into the vial must be made with a new, sterile needle and syringe.

E. Each time a multiple dose vial is re-used, including the initial usage, the vial shall be checked and inspected for any signs of particulate matter or for any contamination. Vials containing particulate matter or showing contamination shall be returned to the pharmacy for proper disposal, and replacement if necessary.

F. Insulin vials are included within this policy and shall be stored at a temperature between 36 to 46 degrees F. Do not freeze.

G. Multiple dose vials of Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) must be discarded 30 days after initial entry.

H. Multiple dose vials of Influenza vaccine may be used through the manufacturer's expiration date printed on the label. Proper storage conditions and sterile technique must be observed.

I. Vials that are outdated as in procedure (B) above shall be returned to the pharmacy for proper disposal, and replacement if necessary.

J. Vials without preservatives are excluded from this policy as such vials are intended for one-time use only.