POLICY: The Correctional Managed Health Care Pharmacy Services will ensure that the needs of the facility are met and are in accordance with all applicable state and federal regulations regarding prescribing, dispensing, administering and procuring pharmaceuticals, and nationally recognized accreditation standards for correctional agencies. A consulting pharmacist visits and inspects each facility on a quarterly basis.

PROCEDURES: Each facility will maintain a current copy of the Pharmacy Manual. It is the responsibility of the Director of Pharmacy Services to ensure that the manual is reviewed annually and remains current. At a minimum the manual will contain information on the following:

A. Development and subsequent updating of a facility formulary or drug list for pharmaceuticals stocked by the prison. The formulary also includes the availability of non-legend medications.

B. Procurement, dispensing, distribution, accounting, administration and disposal of pharmaceuticals.

C. Maintenance of records as necessary to ensure adequate control of and accountability for all drugs.

D. Maximum security storage of and accountability by use for Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)-controlled substances, needles, syringes and other abusable items.

E. Automatic drug stop orders or required periodic review of all orders for DEA-controlled substances, psychotropic drugs, or any other drug that should be restricted because it lends itself to abuse or for any other reason dictating that patient compliance be monitored.

F. A method for notifying the responsible practitioner of the impending expiration of a drug order, so that the practitioner can determine whether the drug administration is to be continued or altered.

G. Administration of drugs only upon the order of an authorized licensed individual with designated privileges.

H. The prescribing of psychotropic or behavior-modifying medications only when clinically indicated (as one facet of a program of therapy) and not for disciplinary reasons. The use of psychoactive medication to treat primary insomnia is not permitted in the outpatient setting. Inmates prescribed antipsychotic medications are given an AIMS examination at baseline and at least once every six months thereafter.

I. Maintaining all medications under the control of appropriate staff members. Except for self-medication programs approved by the prison administrator and responsible physician (e.g., "keep-on-person" program), inmates do not prepare, dispense or administer medication. Inmates are permitted to carry medications necessary for the emergency management of a condition when ordered by a clinician.

J. Maintenance of drug storage and medication areas devoid of drugs that are outdated, discontinued or recalled.
K. Quarterly pharmacy audits.

Reference: Correctional Managed Health Care Pharmacy Manual
ACA Standard 4-4378, (Ref. 3-4341) Pharmaceuticals (Mandatory)
ACA Standard 4-4379, (New) Non-Prescription Medication (Non-mandatory)
HSP 15 – “Texas Department of Criminal Justice Mental Health Services Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale”