



## **WINK: What I Need to Know**

### **Home medication storage, identification, and return process for patients on contact or droplet precaution**

**\*Please Note: All efforts should be made to send medications from home back with family on admission or as soon as possible**

- **Exception:** If patient uses inhalers at home, due to shortage it is encouraged to keep the inhalers while in the hospital

#### **Medication Storage**

- **ALL** patients' own medications not sent back home will be placed inside double clear plastic bags by the patient's nurse, and stored in the patient's room- patients own medication are not be administered during hospitalization unless there is an order (see process below)
  - Don gloves and place bagged medication into second clear plastic bag
  - Store in the patient's room with the patient's belongings
    - If your facility provides a locked cabinet in each patient room, it must be stored there
  - Discard gloves immediately after handling, wash hands or use an alcohol based sanitizer immediately after removal of PPE
  - **DO NOT STORE in patient cassette, inbox, or patient specific bin in Pyxis**
  - **DO NOT send to pharmacy**

#### **Patient's Own Medication (POM) for Hospital Use Medication Identification**

- **If a patient's home medication is ordered to be used in the hospital, *all efforts must be made to change to a formulary medications* – Utilize your clinical manager or coordinator to escalate if necessary**
- In the event that no other substitution is available:
  - An order must be obtained from the prescriber authorizing the patient to use own supply and a complete order must be written (drug/dose/route/frequency, etc.)
  - If the patient is to self-administer the medication, the provider must state that in the order and a the nurse or respiratory therapist must witness the administration and documented in the MAR
  - The pharmacist will coordinate with the nurse outside the patient's room to inspect the sealed plastic bag **with** the medication. The pharmacist must wear gloves and mask, and limit the manipulation of the bag
  - Discard gloves immediately after preparation, wash hands or use an alcohol based sanitizer immediately after removal of PPE
- Once medications are verified and profiled by pharmacy, a label will be provided to the nurse to place on the medication for scanning purposes.

#### **Medication Return Process**

- At time of discharge/transfer all medications will be sent with the patient, and the medication cabinets should be decontaminated
- **No medications will be stored or returned to pharmacy**

**\*This includes clinical trial medications that may be brought from home**