



# Screening, Medication and Return to Use Policies



# Where to find templates

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<https://www.ohiorecoveryhousing.org/policy-templates>



## Medication Policy

# Medication Policy

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- Requires valid prescriptions for medications
- Residents disclose any prescription medications when moving in or when they are prescribed



# Medication Storage

- Storage of scheduled medications\*
  - Level III – locked location that needs staff access
  - Level II – locked location – residents can access independently
  - Level I – secure location out of sight of other residents and visitors

\* Medications may be stored off site as long as all residents can have this arrangement





# Ensuring Medication is not Diverted

- Reasonable policies in place to ensure that residents are only taking medications as prescribed
- Medications are only used by those they are prescribed to, not given to others
- Level III – Staff keep logs of scheduled medications and verify logs each time medication is accessed
- Level II – Residents keep track of their own medications, staff verify logs periodically
- Level I – Residents keep track of their own medications, staff may verify if there is an issue
- All Levels – residents may keep medication off site, but all residents must have this ability

# Example

- Helping Ohio Recovery Housing has a Level III recovery home
- All scheduled medications are stored in a locked cabinet.
- Each resident has their own individual lock box inside the locked cabinet
- Staff also store the medication log book in the cabinet.
- When a resident needs to access their medication, the staff member unlocks the cabinet and the resident unlocks their individual box
- The staff check the log book and verify that all medication is accounted for by witnessing as residents count their own medication
- The resident takes their medication.
- The amount is recorded in the log book





# Example

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- At the Level II Helping Ohio Recovery Homes each resident keeps their own medication in their individual lock boxes
- Each resident keeps their own log, checking each day that they have taken their medication
- Medication Counts are verified by staff once a week. The resident opens their lock box, and the staff witness as residents count their medication
- Staff sign a log book to verify that the medication count is accurate and medication is accounted for







## Example

- Helping Ohio has a partner treatment center
- The treatment center has agreed to allow all residents to store their medication at the treatment center
- Residents go to the treatment center to get their medication each day
- ALL residents, regardless if they get treatment services at the treatment center are permitted to have their medication stored at the treatment center



## Do you allow children to live in the home with their parents full time?

- Policy must require that ALL medications be kept out of reach of children
- Policy must require that any approved scheduled medications that are prescribed to children must be reported and monitored the same as adult medications



## Does anyone in here allow Medical Cannabis in their home?

- If so, you need a policy on this that is either integrated into your medication policy or a separate policy.
- If not, you need to be explicit that you do not allow this. Can be a separate policy, can be included elsewhere.

A close-up photograph of a laboratory microplate with a pipette tip positioned above one of the wells. The pipette is dispensing a small drop of blue liquid into the well. The background is blurred, showing other wells of the microplate. The text "Substance Use Screening" is overlaid in white on the image.

# Substance Use Screening

# Substance Screening

- Describes when screening is performed
  - All homes - Prior to move into the home
  - Level III – on a random basis
  - Level II and I – upon suspicion of use



# Describe what happens what test reveals substance use

- Can be as simple as referring to  
Recurrence of use policy



# What happens if a resident refuses a screen

- You can say that residents can refuse a screen, but the home will assume that they have used substances and proceed as such





# Describe how tests are paid for

- Most homes include the cost in rent, so there are no additional charges
- Consider confirmation screenings
- Most homes require residents to pay for confirmation screenings



A close-up photograph of a door handle with a key hanging from it, set against a blurred green background. The text "Recurrence of Use Policies" is overlaid in white on the image.

# Recurrence of Use Policies



# Recurrence of Use

- Address the situation immediately after any immediate health/safety considerations are met
- ORH Does NOT require that residents be removed from housing

## Additional services and supports

- What will change after this recurrence of use
- Document this plan
- What additional services are being offered
- Be careful about requiring specific lengths of time in treatment





# Document your response

To help if ORH ever gets a complaint

# Do you allow children to live in the home with their parents?

- Description of what will happen with children in the case of an occurrence of substance use



A 3D rendering of a field of dark grey question marks. In the center, one question mark is highlighted in a bright yellow color. The word "Questions?" is written in white, sans-serif font across the yellow question mark.

Questions?