

Colorado State Board of Pharmacy Policy

POLICY NUMBER: 40-8

Title: Prescriptions brought in from home in hospital settings

Date Issued: September 15, 2011

Date(s) Revised:

Reference:

Purpose: To clarify the Board's position on the manner in which a hospital prescription drug outlet may identify and label personal medications brought into the facility by the patient.

POLICY: The Colorado State Board of Pharmacy ("Board") realizes that there are situations in which a hospital prescription drug outlet must identify and label medications which were brought into the facility by a patient after having been dispensed by another prescription drug outlet. The Board further understands that such patient-owned medications incorporate either bar-code label or other form of identification in order to meet the hospital prescription drug outlet's protocols for identifying and labeling the medications.

Board Rule 3.01.10(b) prohibits a prescription that was previously dispensed by another pharmacy to be packaged into another container and relabeled by the hospital or its pharmacy.

The Board's position is that a hospital prescription drug outlet shall not in any way repackage or relabel a prescription previously dispensed by another pharmacy. Therefore, to address the need to incorporate a bar-code label or other form of identification onto a patient's personal medication prior to administration, the Board agrees that a bar coded label or other form of identification may be affixed by the hospital prescription drug outlet either to a separate container in which the patient's original medication container may be placed, or to the patient's prescription container as long as such a label does not obscure the original pharmacy label and may be removed without compromising the original prescription label when the patient is dismissed from the hospital.