Policy:

Medications shall not be left at the patient’s bedside unless specifically directed in writing by the patient’s physician. Under no circumstances whatsoever shall medications be left at the bedside of pediatric patients or those patients receiving narcotics. The order shall include the name and strength of the medication and frequency of administration. If more than one dose is left at the bedside, the medication container shall be labeled with directions for self-administration.

The nurse shall be responsible for making certain that the patient clearly understands the directions for self-administration. The nurse charts self-administered drugs after contacting patient as to administration time.

_______________________
Administrator

_______________________
Date

Approved by Clinical Board: June 2000

Written: 11/95
Reviewed: 3/01