



Long Term Care Pharmacy

Comments Regarding Proposed Amendment of Adult Care Licensure Rules  
10A NCAC 13F Licensing of Homes for the Aged and Infirm  
10A NCAC 13G Licensing of Family Care Homes

Submitted by:

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**Comment A:**

Medications, prescription and non-prescription, shall not be transferred from one container to another except when prepared for a resident's leave of absence or administration to a resident.

In our opinion, this is in violation of the North Carolina Pharmacy Practice Act which states that "filling or refilling drug containers with prescription drugs for subsequent use by a patient is 'dispensing' Providing quantities of unit dose prescription drugs for subsequent administration is "dispensing"

***§ 90-85.40. Violations.***

*(a) It shall be unlawful for any owner or manager of a pharmacy or other place to allow or cause anyone other than a pharmacist to dispense or compound any prescription drug unless that person is a pharmacy technician or a pharmacy student who is enrolled in a school of pharmacy approved by the Board and is working under the supervision of a pharmacist.*

*(b) Every person lawfully authorized to compound or dispense prescription drugs shall comply with all the laws and regulations governing the labeling and packaging of such drugs by pharmacists.*

*(c) It shall be unlawful for any person not licensed as a pharmacist to compound or dispense any prescription drug, unless that person is a pharmacy technician or a pharmacy student who is enrolled in a school of pharmacy approved by the Board and is working under the supervision of a pharmacist.*

**Comment B:**

By allowing medication aides to repackage the medication there are many patient safety concerns:

- Education level and training of staff being requested to do this is not sufficient
- Medications not put in a spill proof container can be mixed with other medications
- The readability of the handwriting on the package
- The types of containers that may be used will not be standardized and could present risk to medication and to children or other people in the home
- Pill identification would be compromised once removed from the package
- Information from the label not transcribed correctly or completely
- Auxiliary labels may not transcribed- such as "Do Not Crush"
- What will be done with unused medication, will the facility be able to administer from this packaging?
- Time constraints of staff within the facility will lead to possible errors and/or medications being mixed or mislabeled.