

1 10A NCAC 13D .2605 is readopted as published in 40:12 NCR 986-998 as follows:

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3 **10A NCAC 13D .2605 DRUG STORAGE AND DISPOSITION**

4 (a) A facility shall ensure that drug storage areas are clean, secure, well lighted and well ventilated; that room  
5 temperature is maintained between 59 degrees F. and 86 degrees F.; and that the following conditions are met:

- 6 (1) All drugs shall be maintained under locked security except when under the direct physical  
7 supervision of a nurse or pharmacist.
- 8 (2) Drugs requiring refrigeration shall be stored in a refrigerator containing a thermometer and capable  
9 of maintaining a temperature range of 2 degrees C. to 8 degrees C. (36 degrees F. to 46 degrees F.)  
10 Drug containers must be placed in another container separate from non-drug items when stored in a  
11 refrigerator.
- 12 (3) Drugs intended for topical use, except for ophthalmic, optic and transdermal medications, shall ne  
13 stored in an area separate from the drugs intended for oral and injectable use.
- 14 (4) Drugs that are outdated, discontinued o deteriorated shall b removed from the facility within five  
15 days.

16 (b) Upon discontinuation of a drug or upon discharge of a patient, the remainder of the drug supply shall be disposed  
17 of according to the facility's policy. If it is reasonably expected that the patient will return to the facility and that the  
18 drug therapy will be resumed, the remaining drug supply may be held for not more than 30 calendar days after the  
19 date of discharge or discontinuation.

20 (c) The disposition of drugs shall be in accordance with written policies and procedures established by the Quality  
21 Assurance Committee.

22 (d) Destruction of controlled substances shall be in compliance with Disposal of Unused Controlled Substances From  
23 Nursing Home as described in 10A NCAC 26E .0406, which is hereby incorporated by reference including subsequent  
24 amendments. These Rules can be accessed online at <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac.asp>.

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26 *History Note: Authority G.S. 131E-104; 131E-117;*  
27 *RRC objection due to lack of statutory authority Eff. July 13, 1995;*  
28 *Eff. January 1, 1996;*  
29 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2012;*  
30 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 22,*  
31 *~~2015-2015;~~*  
32 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary Eff. April 2, 2025;*  
33 *Readopted Eff. August 1, 2026-May 1, 2026.*