

Chapter: **CLINICAL PRACTICE**
Title: **MEDICAL ALERT – ALLERGIES**

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Current Approval Date: 09/23/25

Proposed by: Traci Smith 09/22/2025
Chief Executive Officer Date

Approved by: Al Lorenzo 09/23/2025
County Executive Office Date

I. ABSTRACT

This policy establishes standards and procedures of Macomb County Community Mental Health (MCCMH), an official agency of the County of Macomb, for an internal records alert system for information regarding known or suspected drug allergies that may affect considerations for treatment and care of persons served by the MCCMH provider network.

II. APPLICATION

This policy shall apply to all directly-operated and contract network providers of MCCMH.

III. POLICY

It is the policy of MCCMH that information regarding known drug allergies be ascertained from each person served and his/her health care providers and noted conspicuously on the person's clinical record for consideration in the provision of service by the MCCMH provider network.

IV. DEFINITIONS

Drug Allergy

An acquired hypersensitivity to a drug (allergen) that does not normally cause a reaction and is usually manifested as skin eruption, edema, fever, and/or anaphylactoid reaction.

V. STANDARDS

- A. MCCMH directly-operated and contract network providers shall ascertain pertinent information from a person served and his/her health care providers regarding the person's drug allergies.

- B. Pertinent information regarding drug allergies shall be noted in the person's clinical record. In MCCMH's electronic medical record (EMR), this should be documented in the Medical section under "Allergies & Adverse Reactions" and shall be visibly noted on a "Health and Safety Warning Banner" by selecting the box titled as such under "Chart Note Health Warnings" (Exhibit A) in the Medical or Service Planning sections of the person's clinical record.

VI. PROCEDURES

- A. When a drug allergy becomes known at intake or during treatment, the pertinent information shall be noted in the person's clinical record.
- B. In MCCMH's EMR, this information should be noted in the Medical section under "Allergies & Adverse Reactions" by the nurse or licensed prescriber overseeing the person's treatment.
 - 1. The cover notations shall be made by checking the health and safety warning message box in the "Chart Notes & Health Warnings" (Exhibit A) of the clinical record.
 - 2. The Health and Safety Warning banner is used to alert treatment providers and staff of adverse reactions, allergies, and other pertinent information related to the health and safety of the person served and should not be used to communicate any information that is unrelated to the health and safety of the individual.

VII. REFERENCES / LEGAL AUTHORITY

- A. CARF International Behavioral Health Standards Manual, in effect and as amended
- B. Tabers Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, 16th ed (1989)
- C. Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (Norwalk, CT: Appleton and Lange, 6th ed, 1995)
- D. Huffman, Health Information Management, (Berwyn, IL: Physicians' Record Company, 10th ed 1994)

VIII. EXHIBITS

None.