

(was MCCMH Policy 3-03-010)

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

Approved By: BOARD ACTION

Prior Approval Date: 8/25/06  
Current Approval Date: 8/22/18

  
Executive Director

  
Date

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**I. Abstract**

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

**II. Application**

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

**III. Policy**

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

**IV. Definitions**

A. 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 the consumer and his/her health care providers regarding consumer drug allergies.

B. Pertinent information regarding drug allergies shall be noted in the consumer's clinical record and shall be visibly noted on a medical alert label (Exhibit A) on the cover of the consumer's clinical record or in the consumer's electronic medical record.

## **VI. Procedures**

- A. When a drug allergy diagnosis becomes known at intake or during the course of treatment, the pertinent information shall be noted in and on the consumer's clinical record by the nurse or physician overseeing the consumer's treatment.
- B. The cover notations shall be made by completing the appropriate colored medical alert label (Exhibit A) and affixing it to the outside front cover of the clinical record.

## **VII. References / Legal Authority**

- A. Tabers Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, 16th ed (1989)
- B. Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (Norwalk, CT: Appleton and Lange, 6th ed, 1995)
- C. E. Huffman, Health Information Management, (Berwyn, IL: Physicians' Record Company, 10th ed 1994)  
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## **VIII. Exhibits**

- A. Medical Alert Label

**MACOMB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
Medical Alert Label**

**ALLERGIES**

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