

Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-P08-S03
Effective Date:	05-31-2022
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure
Page Number:	1 of 3
Department/Section:	Nursing Service Division
Document Title:	REFRIGERATOR MONITORING

PURPOSE:

- 1. To provide guidelines on monitoring of refrigerator temperature needed to maintain the quality and stability of the stored medications and feedings.
- 2. To ensure regular checking and cleaning of refrigerator in the ward / unit.

SCOPE:

Applies to all Nursing Service Department staff of Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital

PERSON RESPONSIBLE:

Staff Nurses, Nursing Attendant, Pharmacist

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1. Refrigerators shall be monitored daily to ensure temperature remains between 2°C-8°C and shall be recorded every shift on the Daily Refrigerator Temperature Log Sheet by a Staff Nurse/ Nursing Attendant/ Pharmacist on duty.
- 2. Medicines shall not be stored in a manner that allows patient or public access.
- 3. Refrigerator shall only be used for the storage of medicines and patient's feedings. Laboratory specimens are not permitted in the refrigerators.
- 4. Nurse shall immediately notify maintenance technician when temperature is outside the standard range.
- 5. Pharmacist shall be informed regarding the integrity of medications once the refrigerator is outside of range. This is to ascertain the usability of the medicines stored before they are administered to patients.
- 6. Nurses on duty shall label all medicines placed inside the refrigerator.
- 7. Nurse or Pharmacist shall collect expired medications in the refrigerator or medications for discharged patients.

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Document Title:	REFRIGERATOR MONITORING
Department/Section:	Nursing Service Division
Page Number:	2 of 3
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure
Effective Date:	05-31-2022
Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-P08-S03

PROCEDURE:

- 1. Nurse on duty/ Pharmacist-on-the-floor checks the refrigerator at the start of the shift including:
 - 1.1. the contents,
 - 1.2. the refrigerator temperature,
 - 1.3. the medicines and their expiration date,
 - 1.4. and osterized feeding.
- 2. Nurse on duty/ Pharmacist-on-the-floor records the refrigerator temperature in the Daily Refrigerator Monitoring Sheet. If the temperature is out of range Nurse on duty shall document the temperature, the time and action taken in the remarks portion of the form. Revisit the refrigerator within the shift and document the revisit time and temperature.
- 3. Remove all expired medicines, medications for discharged patient, remaining osterized feeding that are beyond 24 hours, and other items that doesn't belong to the category stated in the General Guidelines statement #3.
- 4. The Nurse shall immediately notify the Maintenance Department when temperature is still outside the standard range during the revisit.

REFERENCE:

Duthie report; The Safe and Secure Handling of Medicines – A Team Approach; by the Hospital Pharmacists' Group of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society March 2005.



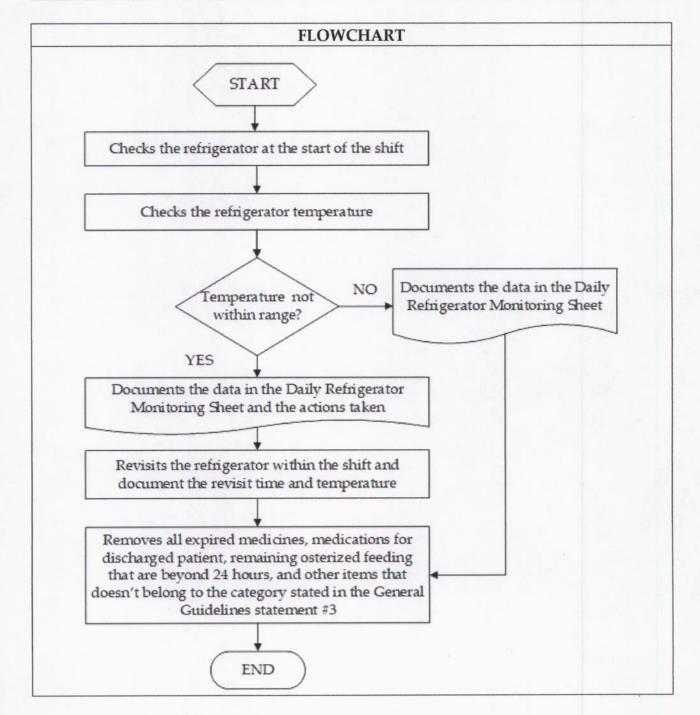
Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-P08-S03	
Effective Date:	05-31-2022	
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure	
Page Number:	3 of 3	
Department/Section:	Nursing Service Division	
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Document Title:	REFRIGERATOR MONITORING	
Department/Section:	Nursing Service Division	
Page Number:	1 of 2	
Document Type:	Flowchart	
Effective Date:	05-31-2022	
Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-P08-FC03	





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Page Number:	1 of 2
Document Type:	Work Instruction
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Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-P08-WI03

	KEY TASKS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1.	Checks the refrigerator at the start of the shift	Nurse on duty/ Nursing Attendant/ Pharmacist-on- the-floor
2.	Records the refrigerator temperature in the Daily Refrigerator Monitoring Sheet	Nurse on duty/ Nursing Attendant/ Pharmacist-on- the-floor
3.	Removes all expired medicines, medications for discharged patient, remaining osterized feeding that are beyond 24 hours, and other items that doesn't belong to the stated category	Nurse on duty/ Nursing Attendant/
4.	Notifies Maintenance Department when temperature is still outside the standard range during the revisit	Nurse on duty/ Nursing Attendant/



Document Title:	REFRIGERATOR MONITORING	
Department/Section:	Nursing Service Division	
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