


Health Authority Abu Dhabi		هيئة الصحة – أبوظبي
Division/ Department/Section: PPR/FLI/PI Subject: Policy on Medical Products Transportation Including Medications		Reference Number: PPR/FLI/PI/P0002/08 Issue Date: February 2008 Revision Date: February 2010 Version: I

1. PURPOSE

The goal of this policy is to provide standard procedure for transporting of medical products including medications, in order to maintain the integrity and quality of the medical products and medications at any point of the transportation until it reaches the consumer.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

The Health Authority Abu Dhabi (HAAD) mandates that all Health Care Facilities (HCF), Drug Stores, and any Transporting entity to follow the best practices of transporting medical products including medications from one point to another.

3. SCOPE


To ensure the safety and integrity of any medical products including medications, during transport between different entities to reach the final destination the patients.

4. TARGET AUDIENCE

Health care facility, corporation, store, and warehouses who is involved in the transportation of any medical or pharmaceutical product

5. RESPONSIBILITY


It is the responsibility of any individual, facility, corporation, store, and warehouses, transporting medical products and pharmaceutical products to comply with this policy and implement the standard practice.

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6. PROCEDURE

The responsible party in the healthcare facility should follow direction in this procedure to develop their operating procedures in order to comply with the requirements.

- 6.1. The transport process should prevent damage and maintain the integrity and quality of medical product and medication.
- 6.2. Any entity transporting medical products including medication should have documented written procedures for shipping products; Procedure should take into account any change in local conditions or any seasonal variations. Such procedures should be verified.
- 6.3. The necessary controls must be in place where controlled storage conditions are required during transit, (e.g. temperature, relative humidity).
- 6.4. Temperature should be strictly controlled and monitored with recording probes or individual monitoring devices, giving consideration to the temperature gradient within the packages using calibrated data loggers.
- 6.5. Refrigerated vehicles/transportation containers should be validated and monitored to ensure that they provide the primary means of environmental control on a monthly basis.
- 6.6. Temperature and humidity monitoring devices should be calibrated at predetermined intervals and single use monitoring devices should be qualified. This should be done by a well-trained and qualified person
- 6.7. All other practices by carriers should be periodically verified by reviewing documentation, a record should be kept at least for one year, and any discrepancies should have a follow up. Records of deliveries must include:
 - 6.7.1 Description of products
 - 6.7.2 Quality of products

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- 6.7.3 Quantity of products
- 6.7.4 Suppliers' name.
- 6.7.5 Batch number
- 6.7.6 Date of receipt.
- 6.7.7 Expiration date of the product


6.8. The procedure in place must implement corrective action in the case of the products have been transported at a temperature outside of those specified for the products. In such cases, a proper investigation should be done and disposition of stock should be evidence based.

6.9 All the shipping containers should have a clear and adhesive label, which must have at least the following information

- 6.9.1 Name and description of the product
- 6.9.2 Batch number
- 6.9.3 Expiration date.
- 6.9.4 Specific storage conditions if any.
- 6.9.5 Any special handling precautions.

7. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Medical Product	Any medical product that requires special conditions during transport including but not limited to, medications, healthcare products, consumables, disposable products, and ready-to-feed baby formulas, except medical equipments.
Medication	Any medicinal product contains a substance or group of substances which is manufactured or sold for the purpose of: a) Diagnose, treat, cure, relief, and protection from disease of a human or an animal. b) Reset, renew, improve, or fix a

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	physiological function in human or animals through biological effect.
Transportation	Any movement of any product between two different entities
Damage	Spoiled, smashed up, break, dent, scratched, hurt..
Integrity	Genuineness, reliability, and truthfulness.
Quality	Value, class, and superiority

8. CROSS REFERENCES

1. Guidelines for Temperature Control of Drug Products during storage and Transportation/ Oct. 2005. Available at: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/compli-conform/gmp-bpf/docs/index_e.html
2. Taylor J, Recommendation on Control and Monitoring of Storage and Transportation Temperatures of Medicinal Products.
3. The Pharmaceutical Journal, 28 July 2001, Volume 267, pages 128-131.
4. Irish Medicine Board Guide to control and monitoring of storage and transportation temperature conditioned for medicinal products and active substances. Version 1, March 2006.
5. WHO Expert committee on specifications for pharmaceutical preparations, WHO technical report series 908, Thirty Seventh Report.