

Storage of Medication Requirements

Per Minnesota Rule, 2960.3050, Subpart 1, "Medication is inaccessible to children and vulnerable adults as needed. Schedule II controlled substances are stored in a locked area." Child Foster Care Staff recently reviewed and developed the following guidelines for the storage of all medications in licensed child foster care homes. Please make these changes immediately.

- **Schedule II controlled substances** must always be locked, regardless of the child's/youth's age. Some examples of schedule II controlled substances are those prescribed for ADHD (Adderall, Concerta, Ritalin) and those prescribed for pain control (Codeine, Oxycodone).
- **When caring for children/youth under the age of 14**, all medications (prescribed and over the counter) must be locked. Approved locking mechanisms are: a keyed lock, a digital lock, or a child proof magnetic lock (see attached picture).
- **When caring for youth age 14 and older**, providers should consider the youth's individual needs when storing medication. For example, if the youth is a suicide risk, medications should be locked.
- **Lifesaving medications** (i.e. EpiPen, rescue inhalers, etc.) – Lifesaving medications should be stored on a high shelf but do not need to be locked.

If a child/youth ingests a medication or other toxic substance, seek medical attention immediately. Call 911 and/or Poison Control (1-800-222-1222).

Please keep in mind, per Minnesota Rule, 2960.3050, Subpart 1, chemicals, detergents and other toxic substances must also be inaccessible to children and vulnerable adults as needed.

If you have any questions, please contact your child foster care social worker/licensor.

EXAMPLES OF CHILD PROOF MAGNETIC LOCKS: These locks can be purchased at Walmart, Home Depot, Mendards, Etc.

