



**24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NPPA CONFERENCE  
FOR PHARMACY BUYERS  
BALLY'S, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
AUGUST 17-19, 2021**

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**MEDICATION  
STORAGE IN THE  
PHARMACY:  
DOES IT REALLY  
MATTER?**

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## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**Participants will be able to:**

- 1. Explain why medication storage is important**
- 2. Describe the various types of medication storage**
- 3. Identify risks associated with improper medication storage**

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## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Proper medication storage is of the utmost importance and is the responsibility of all pharmacy staff members. It is necessary to remain up to date on the manufacturer's storage requirements for medications, as these can change. By virtue of their position, the Pharmacy Purchaser is typically the primary person to oversee the appropriate storage of medications, not only to ensure efficacy, but also safety and regulatory requirements.
- This session will describe different storage locations and methods, as well as why proper medications storage is important. The goal is for the attendees to gain a greater awareness of their role in medication storage and its importance.

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## MEDICATION STORAGE



Patient and employee health and safety is of paramount importance. Proper storage of medication is essential to ensure its efficacy, safe handling and disposal.



Pharmacy Purchaser's are responsible for ensuring medications are stored properly and are readily available. There must also be a mechanism to ensure that medications are either rotated/removed before expiring.

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## IN THE BEGINNING

What factors should be considered when storing medication?

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1. Does it require refrigeration?

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2. Is it a hazardous medication?

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3. 1, 2 and 4?

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4. Is it expired?

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5. How big is the box?

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## MEDICATION STATUS

### Unexpired

These may be stocked in the main pharmacy as well as loaded in ADC's, kits, trays and Cor Carts

Medications with stability and/or packaging concerns, highly concentrated/large volume medications, chemotherapeutic agents, hazardous and temperature sensitive, all require special handling

### Recalled/Expired

These must be segregated from unexpired medications to prevent accidental dispensing

Routine monitoring of both the pharmacy stock as well as the medications in the ADC's, kits, trays, and Cor Carts should be done

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# WHERE DO I PUT ALL THESE MEDICATIONS?



1. ON THE SHELF



2. REQUIRES SPECIAL HANDLING (PPE/CONTROLLED)



3. LIGHT SENSITIVE



4. TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE



5. EXPIRED

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## SO FAR SO GOOD?

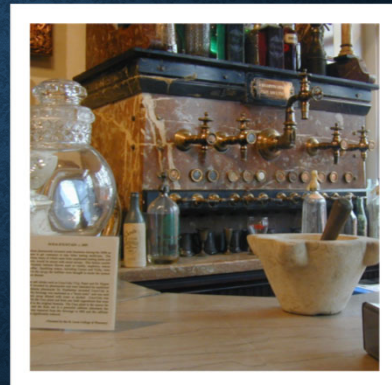
Where should recalled or expired medication be stored?

- 1. In the buyer's office
- 2. On the shelf in a marked baggie
- 3. Clearly marked and separated from unexpired stock

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## TAKE-A-WAYS

- DEA Classification
- Temperature
- Hazardous
- Expiration Status



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## LAST CHANCE

What is the most important factor to consider when storing medication?

- DEA Class
- Safety considerations
- Temperature considerations
- Lighting considerations
- All of the above

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QUESTIONS?

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## REFERENCES

CFR – Code of Federal Regulations

Chapter I – Food and Drug Administration

*Title 21, Volume 4, CITE: 21CFR205.50, April 1, 2020*

ISMP

Targeted Medication Safety Best Practices for Hospitals 2020-2021

[www.ismp.org/sites/default/files/attachments/2020-02/2020-2021%20TMSBP-%20FINAL\\_1.pdf](http://www.ismp.org/sites/default/files/attachments/2020-02/2020-2021%20TMSBP-%20FINAL_1.pdf)

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