

MEDICATION RECALLS

POLICY®

DOCUMENT SUMMARY/KEY POINTS

- This policy provides information regarding medicine recalls
- This document should be read in conjunction with [PD2013_043 Medication Handling in NSW Public Health Facilities, section 3.4.2](#)
- This does not include the management of medical device recalls- this is managed by the Clinical Practice Improvement Unit (POW) or Clinical Governance Unit (SCHN)

CHANGE SUMMARY

- New document

READ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- All doctors, nursing staff and pharmacists should read this policy

This document reflects what is currently regarded as safe practice. However, as in any clinical situation, there may be factors which cannot be covered by a single set of guidelines. This document does not replace the need for the application of clinical judgement to each individual presentation.

Approved by:	SCHN Policy, Procedure and Guideline Committee	
Date Effective:	1 st September 2018	Review Period: 3 years
Team Leader:	Director of Nursing - SCH	Area/Dept: Nursing

Introduction

- A medication recall is an action taken to resolve a problem with a therapeutic good already supplied in the market for which there are issues or deficiencies in relation to safety, quality, efficacy or presentation.

Notification

- The Directors of Pharmacy and the Clinical Governance Unit may receive notification that a product has been recalled. This notification may be from the Therapeutic Goods Administration or directly from the manufacturer.
- The Directors of Pharmacy or delegates will coordinate the recall for the local site.
- The NUMs of all relevant clinical areas are informed by the Department of Pharmacy.
- The patients are informed by the treating team (the department of pharmacy will contact relevant teams with the details of the patients who may have affected stock).

Procedure on Wards

- NUMs (or delegate) to identify if stock on hand is affected by the recall. The ward pharmacist may assist in this process.
- Affected stock is to be quarantined. It should be separated from all other medicines and labelled clearly as recalled stock- not for use.
- After hours this is coordinated by the After Hours Nurse Manger in consultation with the on-call pharmacist.
- Quarantine affected stock. Document the details of the stock removed i.e. quantity, batch number etc and return affected stock to the Department of Pharmacy.
- If there is sufficient unaffected stock, then replacement will occur, otherwise an alternative medicine may need to be prescribed.

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