

Standing Order Template

Standing Order: *General statement of the situation or condition for which the standing order is to be used. Include who may perform the standing order (e.g., RN, LPN) and any training required and competency verification successfully completed prior to utilizing the standing order.*

Assessment: *Criteria used to determine the situation or condition for which the standing order may be carried out.*

- 1. Subjective Findings:** *State complaints reported by the client which are consistent with the identified health care problem. Specify as indicated the number of findings required to support the criteria for using the standing order. Example: subjective findings to support a set of routine clinic labs or immunizations would be to state client presents for the service e.g., need for immunization, pregnant woman requesting prenatal care.*
- 2. Objective Findings:** *State those findings noted on assessment which support the presence of the identified health care problem (e.g., lab test results, vital signs or measures, discharge etc.). Example: objective findings to support a set of routine labs on any client for a specific clinic would be to state the clinic type, e.g., initial prenatal visit for pregnant woman or client age appropriate and has not yet received this immunization which is indicated based on ACIP guidelines.*

Plan of Care:

- 1. Implementation:** *State the medical treatment/pharmaceutical or lab testing procedures to be carried out based on the subjective and objective findings listed above. List any known contraindications to the treatment or procedure. Remember: the standing order cannot be stated in such a manner that would allow the nurse to choose an implementation option such as a treatment unless the order specifically guides the nurse through that process. Otherwise, the nurse is exceeding the scope of Nursing Practice.*
- 2. Nursing Actions:** *State interventions which focus on the client's self-care regarding response to illness, potential illness and/or treatment. Teaching may include awareness of side effects of treatment and criteria for contacting the physician.*
- 3. Criteria for Calling the Physician:** *Include a statement such as " if there is any question about whether to carry out any treatment, lab or other provisions of the standing order contact the physician". May list any known situations or conditions for which the physician should be contacted prior to carrying out the standing order.*
- 4. Follow up Requirements:** *State any follow up testing, rescreening or referral which is routinely required.*

Legal Authority: Nurse Practice Act, G. S. 90-171.20 (7) (f) & (8) (c)

Date Written: _____ **Approved by:** _____ **Date:** _____
Medical Director

Standing Orders must be reviewed and updated as necessary, and signed and dated at least annually.