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| **MONTCALM CARE NETWORK**  **611 North State Street, Stanton, MI 48888** | |
| SUBJECT: Medications | Section: 8305 |
| Effective Date: February 27, 1996 | Revised Date: August 25, 2015 |
| Version: 4 | Status: Current |

Montcalm Care Network provides an integrated health approach to the care of consumers. Medical staff attends to the co-morbid presentation of psychiatric and physical health or substance use symptomatology present in the population served. The array of care includes the prescribing of medication to ameliorate disorders of thought, mood, and behavior. Attending to physical condition that interfere with the treatment of psychiatric disorder or physical consequences that are iatrogenic of psychotropic medications is a part of psychiatric practice. The following principles are essential to prescribing practice:

1. Medications are prescribed for the treatment of mental health conditions in keeping with the most effective pharmacological treatments available and standards of care for the treatment of psychiatric disorders.
2. All consumers are thoroughly assessed to determine co-morbid medical conditions, substance use disorders, and efficacy of previous treatment regiments prior to the initiation of medications.
3. All consumers prescribed medications give informed consent with thorough explanation regarding risks and benefits, discussion of side effects, patient education about the disorder being treated and alternative treatment options.
4. All consumers prescribed medications receive patient educations on preventative health measures to maintain wellness.
5. All consumers prescribed medications are expected to engage in efforts to coordinate care between health care providers to ensure the safe, effective delivery of treatment including the sharing of information, records, and test results between specialists and the primary care provider
6. Montcalm Care Network will make every effort to assist consumers who cannot afford medications to obtain needed prescriptions through Patient Assistant Programs, samples and application for benefits.
7. Montcalm Care Network will ensure the safe and accurate prescribing and monitoring of medications.
8. Montcalm Care Network will ensure the safe storage, administration, and dispensing of medications.
9. Montcalm Care Network will engage in practices to reduce the risk of medication overuse or

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dual prescriber by checking and monitoring MAPS (in accordance with procedure #8305L).