

SECTION – MEDICAL/NURSING SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 542
(Replaces A.D. No. 542 dated 4/13/06)

Effective Date: March 8, 2007

**SUBJECT: PROCEDURE FOR INVOLUNTARY PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION FOR
WIC 6600 SERIES INDIVIDUALS**

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for involuntary psychotropic medication to patients admitted under WIC 6600.

II. AUTHORITY

Department of Mental Health, Special Order 119.06.

III. POLICY

This directive describes the procedures to follow for use of involuntary psychotropic medication in the case of Individuals committed under WIC 6600 series.

IV. METHOD

A. Until a Superior Court order is issued authorizing involuntary psychotropic medication, the Individual may be medicated only in the event of an emergency, and only for as long as the emergency exists.

B. For emergency involuntary psychiatric medication:

Physician's medication order should state that this is emergency involuntary psychotropic medication. Medication order should be specific for the emergency only and time limited for the emergency. The need for continued emergency involuntary psychotropic medication should be assessed at least every four hours and new medication orders written if needed. A face to face examination of the Individual must occur at the initiation of treatment, then every 12 hours. Involuntary medication for over 48 hours must be approved by the Medical Director. The Physician should write a corresponding progress note detailing the need for emergency involuntary psychotropic medication citing specific examples of the Individual's behavior.

C. Continued involuntary psychotropic medication beyond the emergency:

1. If the Individual is unwilling or unable to give informed consent necessary for acceptance of psychotropic medication:

- a. Contact Litigation Coordinator. The Litigation Coordinator will initiate the appropriate petitions.
 - b. A petition is prepared along with a request for a hearing.
 - c. The Individual will have a hearing in Fresno County Superior Court the day after the petition is filed.
- D. If the petition is granted by the Superior Court, medication use is authorized only to the extent permitted in the court order, and is limited to the duration specified in the order.



W. T. VOSS
Executive Director

Cross Reference(s):

A.D. No. 538 Medication, Treatment and Procedure Orders

A.D. No. 540 Procedure for Involuntary Psychotropic Medication of PC 2684 Individuals

A.D. No. 546 Procedure for Authorizing Involuntary Medical Treatment