



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

WARRIOR TRANSITION COMMAND  
200 STOVALL STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22332-2500

28 MAR 2014

MCWT-CSD

WCTP Policy Memo 14-004

Expires: 28 MAR 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, US Army Regional Medical Commands

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum – Medication Safety in WTU Barracks

### 1. References.

a. AR 420-1, Army Facilities Management, 12 February 2008, RAR, 24 August 2012.

b. AR 190-16, Physical Security, 31 May 1991.

d. AR 40-3, Medical, Dental, and Veterinary Care, 23 April 2013.

e. OTSG/MEDCOM Policy 13-051, Soldiers in Transition High-Risk Medication Review and Sole Provider Program, 9 September 2013.

f. OTSG/MEDCOM Policy 13-032, Guidance for Managing Polypharmacy and Preventing Medication Overdose in Soldiers Prescribed Psychotropic Medications and Central Nervous System Depressants, 21 May 2013.

2. Purpose. This policy clarifies precautions for establishing safe storage and usage of medications in Warrior Transition Unit (WTU) barracks. Accidental and intentional abuse and misuse of medications, as well as medication side-effects, adverse reactions, and polypharmacy have been implicated in a large number of adverse Soldier outcomes, both in WTUs and elsewhere in the Army. Appropriate levels of control of medications at all times reduces the likelihood of these adverse events.

3. Proponent. Proponent for this policy is the Warrior Transition Command, Clinical Support Division.

4. Applicability. This policy applies to all personnel assigned or attached to a Warrior Transition Unit, to include cadre and staff members.

5. Policy. Soldiers and cadre in WTUs will take all available precautions to ensure that prescription and non-prescription medications are handled, stored and utilized in a safe and medically appropriate manner. Specifically, Soldiers, cadre, and caregivers will:

a. Secure all medications and their containers other than when the medication is being taken or administered. Where available, medication will be secured in a safe or other locked storage.

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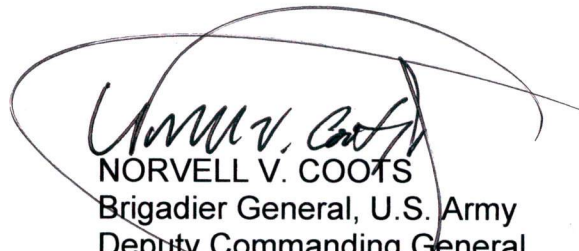
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b. Allow medications only to be taken by or administered to the individual for whom they were prescribed or recommended. Medications will not be shared with any other person.

c. Medications will be stored in either the original labeled container, or a dispensing container specifically and professionally designed and approved for the purpose of dispensing medications.

d. Ensure medications are taken or administered according to the label instructions.

e. Ensure disposal of unused or unneeded medications is conducted according to applicable law and policy.



NORVELL V. COATS  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Deputy Commanding General  
(Support) and Assistant Surgeon General  
for Force Projection