

# MONTEREY COUNTY



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Ray Bullick, Director

ANIMAL SERVICES  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
CLINIC SERVICES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR/PUBLIC GUARDIAN

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 28, 2015

**FROM:** David Soskin, M.D., Medical Director, Monterey County Behavioral Health

**REFERENCE:** MCBH Policy 506 – Control of Medications and Supplies

**SUBJECT:** Medical Assistant Access to Clinic Medication Rooms

In response to recent clarification by the California Department of Health Care Services ("CA DHCS"), medical assistants employed by Monterey County Behavioral Health ("MCBH") will now have access to locked MCBH clinic medication rooms and cabinets in order to store or obtain medications for MCBH clients as needed. Guidelines for access to locked MCBH clinic medication rooms and cabinets can be found in MCBH Policy 506 – Control of Medications and Supplies.

Keys and/or key codes to locked MCBH clinic medication rooms and cabinets will be issued to medical assistant per relevant County of Monterey, Monterey County Health Department, and MCBH policies and procedures.

Medical assistants may also hand MCBH clients properly-labeled and pre-packaged prescription drugs (excluding controlled substances) that have been ordered by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

The properly-labeled and pre-packaged prescription drug must have the necessary information as indicated in MCBH Policy 506, Section IV, Subsection 5(a-l). The physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner must verify it is the correct medication and dosage for the specific MCBH client and provide the appropriate client consultation regarding the use of the drug prior to the medical assistant handing medication to an MCBH client.

**CC:** Ray Bullick, Director, Monterey County Health Department  
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