



SUBJECT FURNISHING SUPERVISION	POLICY NO. 306.04	EFFECTIVE DATE 06/22/2015	PAGE 1 of 5
APPROVED BY:  Director	SUPERSEDES 103.03 06/15/2011	ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE 06/15/2011	DISTRIBUTION LEVEL(S) 1

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To establish standards for providing Furnishing Supervision to Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners (PMHNP) by Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) Physicians.

DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Furnishing:** Ordering of drugs or devices by PMHNPs is the act of making a pharmaceutical agent or agents available to the client in accordance with a standardized procedure pursuant to California (CA) Business and Professions Code Section 2836 (Authority 1).
- 2.2 **Furnishing Supervision/Supervisor:** For purposes of this policy, defined as supervision by a physician or surgeon required for furnishing or ordering of drugs or devices by a PMHNP pursuant to CA Business and Professions Code Section 2836 (Authority 1).
 - 2.2.1 Furnishing Supervision includes the establishment of a unique supervisory relationship between a specified PMHNP and specified physician that involves development of treatment procedures, consultation, and monitoring.
 - 2.2.2 Furnishing Supervision is unique and not interchangeable with the duties of **clinical supervision** or **administrative supervision** as required by LACDMH Policy No. 400.02, Clinical Supervision (Reference 1).
- 2.3 **PMHNP Scope of Practice:**
 - 2.3.1 Registered Nurse (RN) who possesses additional preparation and skills beyond the RN scope of practice which includes physical diagnosis, assessment and management of health-illness needs, the provision of



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psychotherapy and consultation services, and prescriptive or furnishing authority.

- 2.3.2 Utilizes education, training, experience, and established standardized procedures to provide care beyond the usual scope of the RN in order to perform the overlapping medical furnishing functions.
- 2.4 **Client-Specific Furnishing Protocols (CSFP):** Developed in consultation with the Furnishing Supervisor when the PMHNP furnishes Schedule II Controlled Substances and when the PMHNP furnishes outside of the LACDMH Standardized Procedures for furnishing medications/devices. CSFP shall be documented in the clinical record (Attachment 1).
- 2.5 **Standardized Procedures:** Refer to policies and protocols developed through collaboration among administrators and health professionals, including physicians and nurses, by an organized health care system which is not a health facility licensed pursuant to CA Health and Safety Code (Authority 2) and CA Business and Professions Code (Authority 1). Standardized Procedures are the legal mechanism for PMHNPs to perform overlapping medical furnishing functions (Reference 3). They are the legal authority to exceed the usual scope of RN practice.
 - 2.5.1 **Standardized Procedures for furnishing in LACDMH** are the contents of the LACDMH parameters for prescribing of psychoactive medications (Reference 2 and 3).

POLICY

- 3.1 Furnishing Supervision shall be provided to PMHNPs by LACDMH Physicians to ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state regulations and LACDMH policies, procedures, and parameters.
- 3.2 The Furnishing Supervisor shall review the probationary PMHNP’s furnishing ability and attest that he/she appears to possess the requisite skills to safely furnish medications within four (4) months of hire in order for the PMHNP to commence this practice pursuant to the requirements of LACDMH Policy No. 606.02, Probationary Reports (Attachment 2 and Reference 4).



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PROCEDURE

4.1 Furnishing Supervision Procedures:

4.1.1 Assignment

- 4.1.1.1 Furnishing Supervision is an essential function and component of the job responsibilities of an LACDMH Physician.
- 4.1.1.2 An LACDMH Physician must be approved by the LACDMH Supervising Psychiatrist for the relevant program or LACDMH Regional Medical Director and the Program Head in order to function as a Furnishing Supervisor.
- 4.1.1.3 One specific Furnishing Supervisor shall be assigned to each PMHNP at any one time.
- 4.1.1.4 A LACDMH Physician may be designated as a Furnishing Supervisor for up to four (4) PMHNPs.
- 4.1.1.5 A back-up Furnishing Supervisor must be designated in instances when the primary Furnishing Supervisor is not available due to work absence.

4.1.2 Required Components

- 4.1.2.1 Completion of the Approval/Signature page in the onsite manual required by the LACDMH Standardized Procedures for PMHNPs which establishes the Furnishing Supervisor/Supervisee by the Furnishing Supervisor, PMHNP, and the program manager (Reference 3).
- 4.1.2.2 Selected discussion and review of clinical cases with associated documentation via memo to the administrative supervisor, no less frequently than every six (6) months and lasting no less than one hour.



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- This documentation must include an assessment as to whether the quality of the furnishing meets acceptable clinical standards.

4.1.2.3 Availability of the Furnishing Supervisor (or designated back-up) for furnishing consultation at the request of the PMHNP.

4.1.2.4 Development of CSFPs in collaboration with the PMHNP when furnishing Schedule II Controlled Substances, and per LACDMH Policy No. 306.02, Standards for Prescribing and Furnishing Psychoactive Medications, when it is clinically appropriate to depart from LACDMH Standardized Procedures for furnishing medications/devices (Reference 5).

4.1.2.5 Collaboration on the development of the standardized procedures.

4.1.2.6 Approval of the standardized procedures.

4.1.2.7 Notification of the program head (or designee) of any concerns regarding the quality of PMHNP practice.

- If a supervisor believes that a supervisee's furnishing practices fall below an acceptable standard of care, the Furnishing Supervisor should immediately notify the program head and may wish to consult with the supervising psychiatrist.

4.1.2.8 Conducting an annual review of the associated PMHNP's performance and giving input into the Annual Performance Evaluation attesting at least yearly to the continued clinical competence of the PMHNP based upon regular review of cases.

4.1.3 Supervision of furnishing outside of LACDMH Standardized Procedures for furnishing medications:



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4.1.3.1 Furnishing outside of the LACDMH Standardized Procedures for furnishing medications by the PMHNP shall only occur after documented consultation with the furnishing supervisor and the initiation of a CSFP.

- CSFPs are entered into the clinical record, stating that necessary consultation with the Furnishing Supervision has occurred, and signed by the furnishing PMHNP within one (1) business day and co-signed by the Furnishing Supervisor within five (5) business days (Attachment 1).

AUTHORITY

1. California Business and Professions Code Sections 2725-2836
2. California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 2, Division 2, commencing with Section 1250
3. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 14, Article 8, Section 1485

ATTACHMENTS

1. Client-Specific Furnishing Protocol (available through IBHIS)
2. [Review of Furnishing Ability by Furnishing Supervisor](#) (Hyperlinked)

REFERENCES

1. LACDMH Policy No. 400.02, Clinical Supervision
2. LACDMH Parameters For the Use of Psychoactive Medications
3. LACDMH Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Standardized Procedures
4. LACDMH Policy No. 606.02, Probationary Reports
5. LACDMH Policy No. 306.02, Standards for Prescribing and Furnishing Psychoactive Medications

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

LACDMH Office of the Medical Director