**Section 2415.70 Involuntary Administration of Psychotropic Medication**

a) Administration of Psychotropic Medication

1) Psychotropic medication shall not be administered to any youth against his or her will or without the consent of the parent or guardian of a minor who is under the age of 18, unless:

A) A psychiatrist, or in the absence of a psychiatrist a physician, has determined that:

i) The youth suffers from a mental illness or mental disorder; and

ii) The medication is in the medical interest of the youth; and

iii) The youth is either gravely disabled or poses a likelihood of serious harm to self or others; and

B) The administration of such medication has been approved by the Treatment Review Committee after a hearing (see subsection (b) of this Section). However, no such approval or hearing shall be required when the medication is administered in an emergency situation. An emergency situation exists whenever the required determinations listed in subsection (a)(1)(A) of this Section have been made and a psychiatrist, or in the absence of a psychiatrist a physician, has determined that the youth poses an imminent threat of serious physical harm to self or others. In all emergency situations, the procedures set forth in subsection (e) of this Section shall be followed.

2) Whenever a physician orders the administration of psychotropic medication to a youth against the person's will, the physician shall document in the youth's medical file the facts and underlying reasons supporting the determination that the standards in subsection (a)(1) of this Section have been met and:

A) The Chief Administrative Officer shall be notified as soon as practicable; and

B) Unless the medication was administered in an emergency situation, the Chairperson of the Treatment Review Committee shall be notified in writing within three days.

b) Treatment Review Committee Procedures

The Treatment Review Committee shall be comprised of two members appointed by the Chief Administrative Officer, both of whom shall be mental health professionals and one of whom shall be a physician. One member shall serve as Chairperson of the Committee. Neither of the Committee members may be involved in the current decision to order the medication. The members of the Committee shall have completed a training program in the procedural and mental health issues involved that has been approved by the Agency Medical Director.

1) The Chief Administrative Officer shall designate a member of the program staff not involved in the current decision to order medication to assist the youth. The staff assistant shall have completed a training program in the procedural and mental health issues involved that has been approved by the Agency Medical Director.

2) The youth and staff assistant shall receive written notification of the time and place of the hearing at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. The notification shall include the tentative diagnosis and the reasons why the medical staff believes the medication is necessary. The staff assistant shall meet with the youth prior to the hearing to discuss the procedural and mental health issues involved.

3) The youth shall have the right to attend the hearing unless the Committee determines that it is likely that the youth's attendance would subject the youth to substantial risk of serious physical or emotional harm or pose a threat to the safety of others. If such a determination is made, the facts and underlying reasons supporting the determination shall be documented in the youth's medical file. The staff assistant shall appear at the hearing whether or not the youth appears.

4) The documentation in the medical file referred to in subsection (a)(2) of this Section shall be reviewed by the Committee and the Committee may request the physician's personal appearance at the hearing.

5) Prior to the hearing, witnesses identified by the youth and the staff assistant may be interviewed by the staff assistant after consultation with the youth as to appropriate questions to ask. Any such questions shall be asked by the staff assistant unless cumulative, irrelevant, or a threat to the safety of individuals or the security of the youth center.

6) Prior to the hearing, the youth and the staff assistant may request in writing that witnesses be interviewed by the Committee and may submit written questions for witnesses to the Chairperson of the Committee. These questions shall be asked by the Committee unless cumulative, irrelevant, or a threat to the safety of individuals or the security of the facility. If any witness is not interviewed, a written reason shall be provided.

7) Prior to the hearing, the youth and the staff assistant may request in writing that witnesses appear at the hearing. Any such request shall include an explanation of what the witnesses would state. Reasonable efforts shall be made to have such witnesses present at the hearing, unless their testimony or presence would be cumulative, irrelevant, or a threat to the safety of individuals or the security of the facility, or for other reasons including, but not limited to, unavailability of the witness or matters relating to institutional order. In the event requested witnesses are unavailable to appear at the hearing but are otherwise available, they shall be interviewed by the Committee as provided for in subsections (b)(6) and (9) of this Section.

8) At the hearing, the youth and the staff assistant may make statements and present documents that are relevant to the proceedings. The staff assistant may direct relevant questions to any witnesses appearing at the hearing. The youth may request that the staff assistant direct relevant questions to any witnesses appearing at the hearing and the staff assistant shall ask such questions unless cumulative, irrelevant, or a threat to the safety of individuals or the security of the facility.

9) The Committee shall make such investigation as it deems necessary. The staff assistant shall be informed of any investigation conducted by the Committee and shall be permitted to direct relevant questions to any witnesses interviewed by the Committee. The staff assistant shall consult with the youth regarding any statements made by witnesses interviewed by the Committee and shall comply with requests by the youth to direct relevant questions to such witnesses unless cumulative, irrelevant, or a threat to the safety of individuals or the security of the facility.

10) The Committee shall consider all relevant information and material that has been presented in deciding whether to approve administration of the medication.

11) A written decision shall be prepared and signed by all members of the Committee that contains a summary of the hearing and the reasons for approving or disapproving the administration of the medication. Copies of the decision shall be given to the youth, the staff assistant, and the Chief Administrative Officer. Any decision by the Committee to approve involuntary administration of psychotropic medication must be unanimous. The Chief Administrative Officer shall direct staff to comply with the decision of the Committee.

12) If the Committee approves administration of the medication, the youth shall be advised of the opportunity to appeal the decision to the Agency Medical Director by filing a written appeal with the Chairperson within five days after the youth's receipt of the written decision.

c) Review by Agency Medical Director

1) If the youth appeals the Treatment Review Committee's decision, staff shall continue to administer the medication as ordered by the physician and approved by the Committee while awaiting the Agency Medical Director's decision on the appeal.

2) The Chairperson of the Committee shall promptly forward the written notice of appeal to the Agency Medical Director or a physician designated by the Agency Medical Director.

3) Within five working days after receipt of the written notice of appeal, the Agency Medical Director shall:

A) Review the Committee's decision, make such further investigation as deemed necessary, and submit a written decision to the Chief Administrative Officer; and

B) Provide a copy of the written decision to the youth, the staff assistant, and the Chairperson of the Committee.

4) The Chief Administrative Officer shall direct staff to comply with the decision of the Agency Medical Director.

d) Periodic Review of Medication

1) Whenever any youth has been involuntarily receiving psychotropic medication continuously or on a regular basis for a period of six months, the administration of such medication shall, upon the youth's written request, be reviewed by the Treatment Review Committee in accordance with the procedures enumerated in subsections (b) and (c) of this Section. Every six months thereafter, for so long as the involuntary medication continues on a regular basis, the youth shall have the right to a review hearing upon written request.

2) Every youth who is involuntarily receiving psychotropic medication shall be evaluated by a psychiatrist at least every 30 days, and the psychiatrist shall document in the youth's medical file the basis for the decision to continue the medication.

e) Emergency Procedures

Subsequent to the involuntary administration of psychotropic medication in an emergency situation:

1) The basis for the decision to administer the medication shall be documented in the youth's medical file and a copy of the documentation shall be given to the youth and to the Agency Medical Director for review.

2) A mental health professional shall meet with the youth to discuss the reasons why the medication was administered and to give the youth an opportunity to express any concerns he or she may have regarding the medication.

f) Documentation

Copies of all notifications and written decisions shall be placed in the youth's medical file.

g) Grievances

A youth may submit a grievance concerning the involuntary administration of psychotropic medication directly to the Administrative Review Board in accordance with 20 Ill. Adm. Code 2504.Subpart F. In considering the grievance, the Board shall confer with the Agency Medical Director.

h) Treatment of Minors

In the case of a youth who is a minor under the age of 18, the parent or guardian shall be sent the documentation and written decisions that are provided to the youth pursuant to this Section and shall be permitted to attend and participate in any proceedings required by this Section. Notice of any Treatment Review Committee hearing shall be promptly sent to the parent or guardian and reasonable attempts shall be made to provide such notice at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.