I. PURPOSE:
To establish policy and procedures concerning pharmacy services to Agency consumers.

II. APPLICATION:
To all Community Mental Health of Ottawa County (CMHOC) operated programs.

III. DEFINITIONS:
Not Applicable.

IV. POLICY:
It is the policy of CMHOC to refer outpatient consumers to the pharmacy of the consumer’s choice for pharmacy services, whenever possible.

V. PROCEDURE:
1. When a Licensed Prescriber provides a consumer with a prescription, the prescriber directs the consumer to use the pharmacy of the consumer’s choice to fill the order.

2. If the consumer is determined to be without prescription insurance coverage and/or the financial means to purchase the medication, the prescription may be filled through the use of manufacturer’s samples, coupons, or the manufacturer’s patient assistance program, if available.

3. When sample medications are provided, the procedures outlined in the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Manual will be followed.

5. In rare situations when none of the above means of procuring medication is available to the consumer, CMHOC’s internal medication program may be utilized. Under this program, the consumer will be directed to a specific participating pharmacy to fill the order for medication. The cost of medication will be paid by CMHOC. Authorization of the medication program will be through the Program Coordinator for Crisis Services.
6. When a long-acting injectible medication is ordered by the prescriber, the medication will be administered by staff with appropriate licensure and certification.

VI. ATTACHMENT:
Not Applicable.

VII. REFERENCE:
CMHOC Medication Committee Manual