



VOLUME 9: PHARMACY SERVICES	Effective Date: 1/2010
CHAPTER 43	Revision Date: 11/2014
9.43 PRESCRIPTION QUANTITY STANDARDS (SOLID ORAL DOSAGE FORMS)	Attachments: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I. PROCEDURE OVERVIEW

When clinically appropriate, the duration of prescription orders for solid oral dosage forms shall be written in increments of 30 days and shall not exceed one year. Solid oral dosage forms provided by Central Fill Pharmacy shall be packaged in either blister cards containing quantities of 30, 60, or 90, depending upon product size and normal dosing, or in unit dose packaging. The existing packaging systems will be used for items not dispensed by Central Fill Pharmacy, but quantities will be standardized as above.

II. PURPOSE

To standardize prescribed quantities of medications wherever possible to allow optimal utilization of the Central Fill Pharmacy’s automated, high-volume dispensing equipment, thereby ensuring efficiency and reducing waste.

III. PROCEDURE

A. General Orders

1. Prescription medications ordered in 30-day supply increments will be dispensed in quantities of 30, 60, or 90 when practical. Prescribers shall make every effort to order medication in full 30-day quantities when appropriate.
2. The blister pack size chosen will be dependent on the size of the tablet/capsule and normal dosing frequency.

B. As Needed Medication (PRN)

For PRN medications, multiples of 30 tablets or capsules (not to exceed 50 percent of a month’s supply) will be dispensed unless the prescriber writes a specific quantity and includes “Dispense Specified Quantity” in the order.