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| PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS – UNNECESSARY PSYCHOTROPIC &  ANTIPSYCHOTIC DRUGS | | | | NO. 222a | |
| It is the policy of Winning Wheels, Inc that a resident shall not be given unnecessary drugs.  An unnecessary drug is any drug used:  1. in an excessive dose, including in duplicative therapy; "Duplicative drug therapy" means any drug therapy that duplicates a particular drug effect.  2. for excessive duration;  3. without adequate monitoring;  4. without adequate indications for its use; or  5. in the presence of adverse consequences that indicate the drugs should be reduced or discontinued.  Psychotropic medication shall not be prescribed or administered without the informed consent of the resident, the resident's guardian, or other authorized representative. Additional informed consent is not required for reductions in dosage level or deletion of a specific medication. The informed consent may provide for a medication administration program of sequentially increased doses or a combination of medications to establish the lowest effective dose that will achieve the desired therapeutic outcome. Side effects of the medications shall be described.  Prior to implementation of psychotropic therapy, behavioral interventions should be attempted, including modification of the resident's behavior and / or environment, including staff approaches to care, to the largest degree possible to accommodate the resident's behavioral symptoms. Behavioral monitoring will occur on an ongoing basis for all types of psychtropic therapy, with the exception of antidepressants.  "Psychotropic medication" means medication that is used for or listed as used for antipsychotic, antidepressant, antimanic or antianxiety behavior modification or behavior management purposes in the latest edition of the AMA Drug Evaluations or The Physicians Desk Reference, or Facts and Comparisons. | | | | | |
| Approved: | Effective Date: | Revision Date: | Change No.: | | Page:  1 of 1 |