ADVISORY OPINION REGARDING DISPOSITION OF MEDICATIONS IN THE HOME CARE SETTING

It has come to the Board's attention that following the demise of clients in the home, nurses have been removing the remaining medications prescribed for the deceased and storing them until they could be picked up by the Board of Pharmacy. In the event of the death of a home care client, medications ordered for that client become part of the client's estate.

It is the opinion of the Board of Nursing that a nurse removing drugs is acting unprofessionally and may be subject to disciplinary action for violating NAC 632.890, ss 15, 16, and/or 18.

Adopted 12/87