**§1559. Administration of medication**

**1. Administration of medication by sheriff or deputy.**  The sheriff of any county may administer to any prisoner in custody any oral or topical medication as prescribed by a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or dentist and approved by the facility health care provider or, if requested by a prisoner, any nonprescription medication in accordance with the directions on its container. The sheriff may delegate this authority to administer medication to the jail administrator or the jail administrator's designee or the facility health care provider.

[PL 2001, c. 153, §1 (AMD).]

**2. Limitations on administration of medication.**  The sheriff or the sheriff's delegate may not administer any prescription or nonprescription medication to any prisoner who has been incarcerated in the county jail for less than 24 hours, unless the sheriff or the delegate has consulted with and received permission to administer that medication from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant or dentist or the facility health care provider.

[PL 2001, c. 153, §1 (AMD).]

**3. Insulin injections.**  This section does not prevent any prisoner from self-administering insulin injections, provided that:

A. A duly licensed physician has authorized that self-administration; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. That self-administration takes place in the presence of the sheriff or the sheriff's delegate. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**4. Statement by prisoner.**  Before administering any nonprescription medication to any prisoner who has been incarcerated in the county jail for 24 hours or longer, the sheriff or the sheriff's delegate shall obtain a written statement signed by the prisoner, which states that the prisoner has requested that medication and has had no previous adverse allergic reaction to that medication.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**5. Records of medication administered.**  Every sheriff or the sheriff's delegate shall maintain for at least 2 years a record which includes a description of each prescription and nonprescription medication administered in the county jail and the identity of each person to whom that medication is administered.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

**6. Administration of medication not a violation.**  The administration of medication to prisoners, as provided in this section, is not a violation of Title 32, section 2102, subsection 2, paragraph F, or Title 32, section 3270, or any other law.

[PL 2001, c. 667, Pt. A, §48 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 153, §1 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 667, §A48 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1. 2023
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.