



<b>VOLUME 9: PHARMACY SERVICES</b>	Effective Date: 04/2007
<b>CHAPTER 33</b>	Revision Date: 04/2015
<b>9.33 OFF-LABEL USE OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS</b>	Attachments: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**I. POLICY**

Medications for off-label use may be prescribed within California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) when based on sound scientific evidence, expert medical judgment, or peer reviewed published literature.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

**Off-label Use:** Use of a Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved drug for an indication not listed in the package labeling or at doses not supported by the package labeling.

**III. PROCEDURE**

All efforts shall be made to utilize drug regimens approved by the FDA for the prescribed indication and the prescribed dosage before prescribing a medication off-label.

- A. The provider who prescribes an off-label medication will exercise clinical judgment based on scientific literature. The provider is responsible for deciding which drug to use, the medication dosing regimen, and the indication for use for each patient.
- B. When requested by the pharmacist, a provider shall provide the pharmacist supporting literature or a completed California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) 7374, Nonformulary Drug Request, prior to the dispensing of the prescription.

**IV. REFERENCES**

- Inmate Medical Services Policies and Procedures, Volume 9, Chapter 8, CCHCS Drug Formulary