I. PURPOSE

To provide non-prescription, over-the-counter (OTC) medications to North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) Prisons facility canteens that shall give offenders an alternative method for treating minor, self-limiting conditions.

II. POLICY

(a) The availability of OTC medications in the Canteen does not prohibit offenders from submitting a DC 602 Sick Call Appointment Request to receive treatment for minor, self-limiting conditions.

(b) Health and Wellness staff shall continue to provide non-prescription medication to offenders based on established treatment protocols.

(c) Health and Wellness staff shall assume no responsibility for the purchase, distribution, or maintenance of canteen non-prescription medications.

(d) OTC medications shall not interfere with required applicable medication control at facilities.

III. PROCEDURE

(a) To ensure statewide uniformity, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee shall recommend canteen non-prescription (OTCs) pharmaceutical products.
(b) The Commissioner of Prisons/Designee approves the OTCs to be sold in the Canteen.

(c) Annually, the P&T Committee shall review the OTC medications available in the Canteen. Documentation of the annual OTC medications review shall be noted in the applicable P&T Committee minutes.

(d) Only products that are safety sealed or unit dose shall be considered for canteen use.

(e) Products shall contain appropriate patient labeling such as indications, dosing instructions, side effects and warnings/precautions.

(f) Canteen medications are intended for short-term use only.

(g) Authorized canteen merchandise is listed in the Canteen Operations (Cashless on the Net) Manual Section 6 Authorized Canteen Merchandise.

__________________________  August 9, 2021  
Todd E. Ishee  
Commissioner of Prisons