

HOW TO USE THE 28 DAY BLISTER CARD

28-day blister cards have a label that hold specific instructions along with detailed information about the medication to be given. This card also usually has an HOA sticker (time to be given). Remember that this is a 28 day(4 week) cycle NOT a month long cycle. It's important to pay attention to the **day** of the week your cycle starts and the "date" of the month. At the beginning of the year, each facility receives a cycle start date calendar that should be followed. If your meds are off-cycle, please notify the pharmacy or use the Early Cycle Start form.

Each new cycle will start with "FIRST WEEK", simply starting at the top (blister #28) and going down. You then should be starting the columns on the same day every week, which is also the same day of the week that your cycle starts.

The majority of facilities that do not have eMAR have their staff initial along the line when that medication is punched out, for that day and time, according to the directions on the label.

Punch out the blisters descending week 1 as indicated below.

To "punch out" the blister, especially if it's a larger capsule or double packed, simply perforate the foil paper side of the bubble first. This will help remove medication as you "punch it out" of the blister.

28 DAY CYCLE CARDS
DO **NOT** NEED TO BE RE-ORDERED EACH CYCLE. WE SEND EVERY 4 WEEKS UNLESS DC'D OR DOSE CHANGED.

HOA (hour of administration sticker)

You can place date across weeks 1 thru 4 to help aid staff

For example if this cycle starts on Wednesday January 5th. Each week will then start on a Wednesday.
Second week: January 12
Third week: January 19
Fourth week: January 26

The fourth week will go through February 1st, sometime during that fourth week, your next cycle will show up. If you need to pull any cards to start early, the pharmacy needs to know in order to send additional meds to get you back on cycle. This can be done by using the Early Cycle Start form

HOW TO USE 31 DAY BLISTER CARDS

(PRNs, 30-day no refills, Hospice, Controls)

PRN Cards ...

The HOA sticker will be red and say **PRN**. You should make sure that when administering PRN meds to check the expiration date.



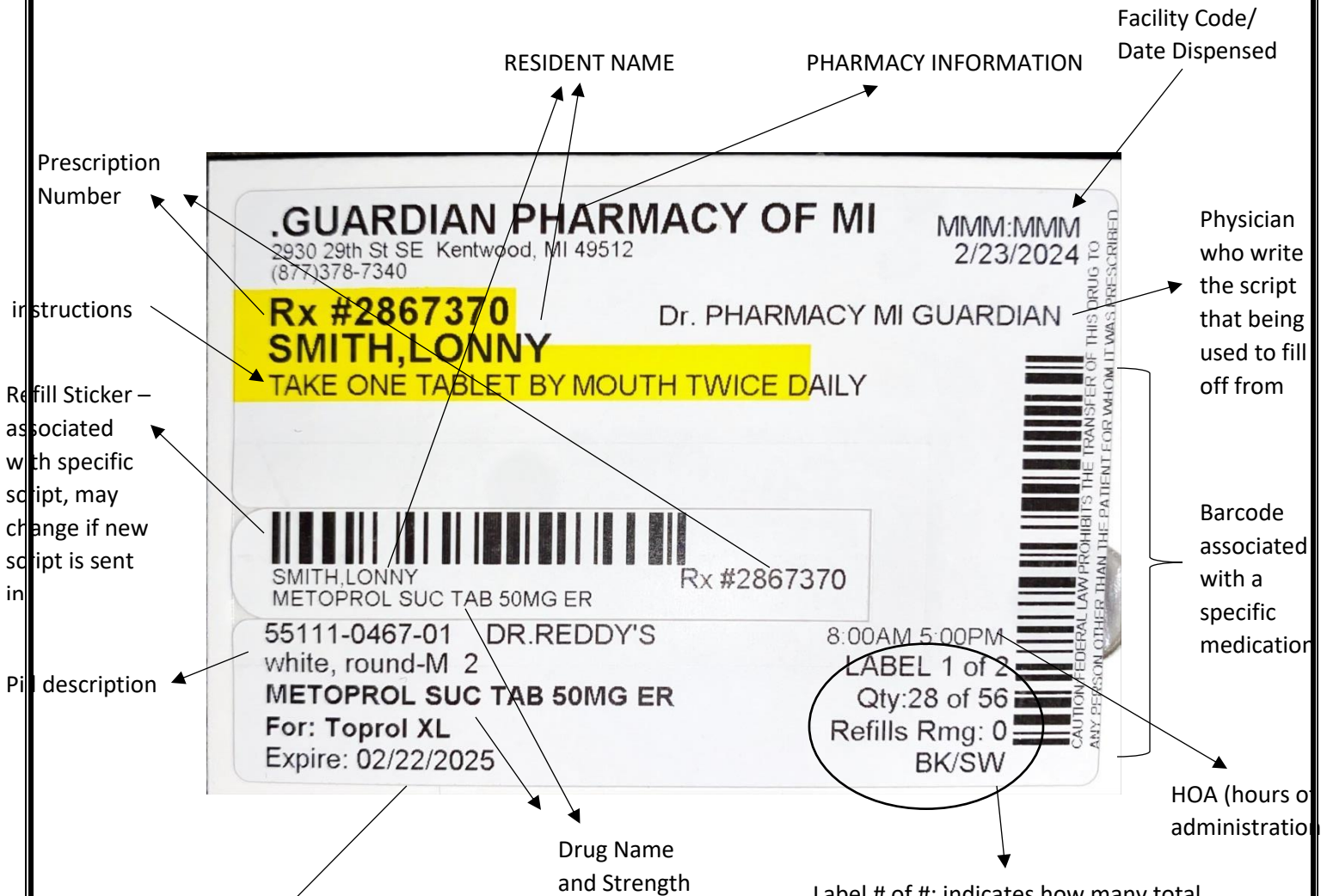
GOOD RULE OF THUMB....

IF THE CARD HAS A BLUE TRIANGLE ON THE LEFT, IT WILL NEED TO BE RE-ORDERED WHEN LOW. PULL STICKER AND FAX TO PHARMACY

For medications in these cards, the best practice, especially if a controlled substance, is to start at the highest number filled and work down. This has 15 tabs, so punch out #15 first and then you'll easily be able to count for controls and also to know when to re-order at day 4.

MOST 31-DAY BLISTERS CARDS NEED TO BE RE-ORDERED WHEN LOW. WE RECOMMEND RE-ORDERING WHEN THERE ARE 4-6 DAYS REMAINING.

UNDERSTANDING THE PARTS OF A LABEL



Expiration date will automatically print as 1 year after the date that medication was dispensed. This is true for all medications, but only applies to the medications that have been repackaged by the pharmacy. Eye drops should have open dates, insulin should have open dates, topical meds in manufactured packaging use the date printed on the packaging.

Label # of #: indicates how many total cards of this medication were dispensed

Qty: total # of pills send in this card

Refills: will always say 0, but this is not usually the case. The pharmacy uses a total quantity remaining system

RR/HKF: initials of the pharmacy staff you refilled and printed the label