South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
Self-Administration of Medication Assessment - Topical

Consumer:		Residence/Site:		
Assessment time	Assessor		Title	Date
1				
2				
3				

SCORING: If the individual can complete the task independently (without verbal prompts or manual assistance), place a 'Y' in the assessment results column. If the individual cannot complete the skill or requires verbal or manual guidance, place a 'N' in the assessment results column. **An individual is not considered 'independent' in self-administration of topical medications unless all items are rated as 'Y'.**

Does the individual complete the following steps independently (without verbal prompts or manual assistance)? Record a Yes ('Y') or No ('N') in the appropriate column.

Item	Assessment Time		
FOR TOPICAL MEDICATION	1	2	3
Preparation:			
Recognizes the time the medication is to be applied (e.g., tells time; associates with a particular activity, etc.)			
Identifies when medications need to be reordered and notifies appropriate person OR a system is in place to support the individual in re-ordering medication			
Washes hands			
Locates and places the following items on a clean surface			
• Gloves			
• Applicator such as tongue blade, clean gauze pads, cotton-tipped swab			
• Medication Administration Record			
Identifies and removes correct topical medication from locked medication supply			
Identifies the purpose of the topical medication			
Identifies the most common side effects of the topical medication			
Identifies who to contact if problems with medication occur			
Identifies correct site for application of topical medication			
Applying the medication:			
Puts gloves on			
Prepares site for application (e.g. cleans and dries the site)			
Rechecks that the medication selected is correct			
Opens medication container			
Applies the appropriate amount of medication on the designated area using gloved finger or applicator			
Closes medication container			
Using gloved hand, spreads medication onto affected area until absorbed. Avoids rubbing the skin.			
Applies dressing to area (if appropriate)			
Removes gloves			

Applying the medication, cont'd			
Disposes of tongue blades, gauze pads, cotton-tipped swabs and gloves in appropriate receptacle			
Washes hands immediately			
Documents medication applied on Medication Administration Record (MAR)			
Returns medication container to the appropriate locked storage space			
Clean up:			
Wipes off counter			
Returns MAR to proper location			
Washes hands			