

The following information was provided by Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement regarding boxes for controlled substances in the medication refrigerator:

The Part 80 Rules and Regulations on Controlled Substances in New York State require that Schedule II, III and IV working stock must be stored in a stationary, locked, double cabinet. Both cabinets must have key-locked doors with separate keys. Cabinets must be made of steel or other approved metal (requirements for Schedule V working stock are less).

Recognizing that some controlled substances require refrigeration, the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE) must make a determination on what is equivalent storage. In these cases (assuming that we are talking about working stock), BNE has required that a **metal, key-locked** (not a combination lock) box be affixed to the inside of the refrigerator, which also must be locked, thus creating a double-locked system that is in conformity with Part 80. Further, if the metal key-locked box is mounted to a shelf, then care should be taken not to attach the box to a shelf that can be removed from the refrigerator.

The preference is that the box be attached to a side wall of the refrigerator. The use of a chain to attach the box to the inside of the refrigerator is not permitted. The use of a chain to attach the refrigerator to the wall is not required. The outer refrigerator door is to be locked by means of a keyed lock. A hasp and pad lock is permissible, but the key to this lock cannot be the same as the key to the box mounted inside the refrigerator.