

Central Maine Healthcare

Administrative Policy No. HC-GA-1010(R2) General Administrative

SUBJECT: Tobacco Free Campus

Policy Purpose:

To maintain a safe healthcare environment for our patients, employees and visitors.

In accordance with Central Maine Healthcare's (CMH) mission statement and Maine State law, we are committed to providing quality healthcare and promoting the prevention of disease. Tobacco use, smoking and environmental tobacco smoke pose serious health and safety risks and undermine medical treatment; therefore all CMH campuses are tobacco-free.

Policy:

The use of all tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and smoke-less tobacco) is prohibited on all CMH owned property and grounds and in all leased or rented office space where Central Maine Healthcare employees work.

Individuals are required to cease use of any tobacco product upon arrival on any CMH campus. For safety and health reasons it is necessary to appropriately discard all tobacco products.

There will be no designated smoking areas for employees, visitors or inpatients at Bridgton Hospital, CMMC and Rumford Hospital and no smoking within 50 feet of any entrance.

There is no smoking in any CMH owned or leased vehicle.

This policy applies to patients, employees, volunteers, visitors, vendors, contracted workers, tenants of CMH, medical staff and students.

The residents of Bolster Heights Residential Care Facility and Rumford Community Home are exempt from this policy.

Performed by:

All persons associated with CMH have an obligation to assist in the enforcement of this policy by requesting that people do not smoke on the premises. "No Smoking" signs are posted at all building entrances and other locations as appropriate. The success of this policy is dependant upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers.

Location/area:

All CMH owned property and grounds and in all leased or rented office space where CMH employees work. Employees who wish to smoke during their designated breaks and mealtimes may go to their personal vehicles provided safety for themselves, coworkers, and patients are considered first.

Equipment: n/a

Procedure:

Policy adherence is a condition of employment. The facilities' disciplinary action will be followed for noncompliant personnel. All CMH employees are informed of the policy by appropriate written material, orientation and signage. Personnel will be offered cessation services, material and support.

Patients will be notified of the policy through appropriate printed material, signage and verbal notice before and/or upon admittance. Patients will be offered cessation benefits and nicotine replacement support by their physician. Healthcare providers can refer all patients to their respective hospital's Respiratory Therapy Department who will then initiate a request for a volunteer from the community's smoking cessation program to make contact with the patient for additional support and information. At Rumford Hospital, the Respiratory Therapy Department will provide smoking cessation information if requested.

Visitors will be notified of the policy through signage and verbal notice. Visitors will also be offered cessation materials and resources. Noncompliant visitors will be asked to leave the grounds. Disruptive behavior will be managed as per hospital policy.

Special considerations: n/a

Cross references:

References:

Regulations Governing the Licensing and Functioning of Assisted Housing Programs, Level IV Residential Care Facilities, effective September 1, 2003, Standards for Resident Care, Sections 12.1, 12.2.1, 12.3.1, and Resident Rights, Sections 5.1, 5.16, 5.26.2.

Peter E. Chalke
President
(Signature on File)

Effective: November 18, 2004

Supersedes: CMMC S.O. 1:5.21 (R8) issued 11/05/99; RH P & P 10-7, revised 04/06; BH SM111, revised 01/03/02

Revised: November 4, 2005
January 18, 2007

Reviewed: June 18, 2009