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 Owner: Kenneth Baker Jr: Safety Program Manager
 Policy Area: Administration
 References:
 Applicability: AK - Providence Alaska MC & affiliates

Tobacco Free Environment Medical Center

Historical Number

POLICY – PAMC/MS 100.017

PURPOSE/SCOPE

To describe the procedures/conditions that reinforces a healthy, tobacco free environment within Providence Alaska Medical Center's campus. It also recognizes that there are instances where patients who are admitted to the medical center are nicotine dependent.

POLICY

In keeping with the philosophy and mission of Providence Health & Services, Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC), as a health-care institution promotes a healthy and safe environment by prohibiting tobacco products within the medical center's buildings and on campus. This policy covers all present and future buildings and structures located on the PAMC Campus.

DEFINITIONS/ACRONYMS

Tobacco includes, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, cigars, pipebowls and snuff.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), although they do not contain tobacco, are not allowed in the hospital setting. E-cigarettes, "which typically contain lithium type batteries used to generate heat, could be a fire hazard. If people see e-cigarettes used, and are not aware of their uniqueness, they may assume that smoking conventional cigarettes is allowed."

PROCEDURES

- A. Use of tobacco is not permitted in any part of the medical center's buildings, including patient care areas, work areas, private offices or common areas and campus including parking areas. Common areas are defined as all areas that are shared by others, such as entrances, lobbies, locker rooms, hallways, and staircases. Parking areas include the interior of vehicles.
- B. Visitors and patients who violate this policy will be informed and directed back to their area. If they do not comply, a security officer should be notified by calling "00" on an in-house line, or 212-2211.

C. Employees who violate this policy are subject to progressive discipline as described in the Performance Management Process policy R630.012.

D. Patients:

1. Hospital staff may provide stop smoking information (example: "Quit Kit") to patients that are smokers.
2. Patients are not permitted to use tobacco products in their rooms or any other rooms/areas of the medical center as noted in sections IV, A and IV, B above.
3. Patients in violation of this policy are advised that tobacco products are not permitted. Tobacco materials may be removed and stored for the patient until discharged if the patient demonstrates difficulty following the policy.

REFERENCES

Regulatory and / or Accreditation

Joint Commission Standards Interpretation Group (September 2013), EC.02.01.03 clarification regarding electronic cigarettes, retrieved from jointcommission.org.

Policy

[R Performance Management Process](#)

[PAMC Arrest of Patient by Law Enforcement](#)

[PAMC/MS Patient Visitation](#)

ATTACHMENTS

None

KEY INDEX WORDS

Smoking, Tobacco Free, Smoke-Free, non-smoking

**** Policy is not complete without Signature Authorization sheet following** End of Policy**

HISTORY: This policy REVISES PAMC PAMC 995.001 dated 10/30/1998 (archived) and PAMC/MS 951.106 / PAMC/MS 100.005 dated 9/12/2007 (archived effective 11/15/2007). PAMC/MS 951.118-100.017, effective date 02.11.2014.

Attachments:

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Robert Honeycutt: Chief Operating Officer PAMC	07/2017
Deborah Hansen: Reg Chief Nursing Officer Ak	07/2017
Operations Council: OPS Council [TP]	07/2017

Approver**Date**

Kenneth Baker Jr: Safety Program Manager

07/2017

Theresa Posini: Coord Reg Compliance Admin

03/2017

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