



GENERAL SAFETY AND CONSUMER MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

We are committed to a culture of recovery throughout our systems of care, in our interactions with one another, and with those persons and families who trust us with their care.

OVERVIEW

- DMHSA is committed to providing consumers with a safe environment that meets the needs of the each consumer and ensures the consumer the greatest amount of freedom and opportunity with the least amount of risk.
- DMHSA shall ensure the building and grounds are hazard free, clean, and in good repair

STANDARDS OF CARE

- DMHSA's building and grounds are maintained in a safe, clean and orderly manner at all times to ensure consumers are provided treatment under safe conditions.
- The building and grounds are routinely checked to protect consumers, visitors and staff from potential safety hazards.
- All consumers admitted to an inpatient unit are considered at risk for potential injury due to the fact he/she is in an unfamiliar environment. Therefore, the consumer will be assessed each shift and the inpatient treatment plan will incorporate goals and interventions to provide the optimal safe environment for the consumer.

PROTOCOL

Minimum Standards of Care:

- The safety officer, maintenance supervisor and guard supervisor work together to evaluate the safety of the Department's procedures and environment.
 - These supervisors, along with other staff will make recommendations as to modifications and initiations of safety policies and procedures.
- Department staff shall report all potential safety hazards to their supervisor immediately.
- All appliances and equipment shall be approved through the safety officer before use in the Department.
- All Department owned equipment needing repairs must be removed from service and reported to the maintenance division.

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- All personal appliances (i.e., coffee pot, microwave, etc.) shall be removed and repaired, at the owners expense and shall not be used again, until it is operating properly.
- It is the Safety Officers responsibility to keep staff informed of safety practices and to see that they are adhered to such practices (i.e., fire emergency plan, fire exit routes, typhoon response plan, etc.).
- Hot water supply is thermostatically controlled. These controls are inaccessible to consumers, the public, or unauthorized personnel.

Consumer Specific Safety:

- Handrails will be available in areas where consumers need support (i.e., stairway).
- Consumers shall wear shoes or slippers at all times when walking.
- All areas in which the consumer may walk shall be thoroughly dry and free of obstacles.
- Night lighting is provided in all consumer rooms and corridors.
- All safety concerns regarding consumers and their treatment will be documented and communicated during nursing shift reports.
- Consumers will be placed on appropriate precaution levels for risk of self-harm, violence or AWOL.
- Upon admission, all consumer belongings that are identified as restricted articles will be sent home.
 - Electronic devices are prohibited on the Inpatient Units.

Consumer Rounds:

- The on-coming and off-going charge nurse will make consumer rounds every eight (8) hours.
- Consumer rounds will include the following identifications:
 - Potential for assaultive behavior
 - Potential for self-injurious behavior
 - Potential for AWOL risk
 - Fall risks
 - Potential for leaving DMHSA AMA
 - Medical conditions that require close observation
 - General mental and physical condition of the consumer

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- Safety rounds of the physical environment of the Inpatient Units will be conducted daily (Monday- Friday, except holidays), and as needed, by the Safety Officer and/or on-duty guards.
 - All safety concerns in the Inpatient Units will be reported to the Charge Nurse for intervention and plan of action.

Visitor Safety:

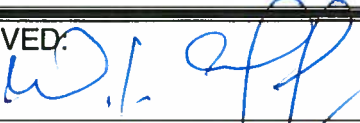
- When visitors come into the building, the guards shall inform him/her that restricted articles can't be brought on the unit, including cell phones.
 - If necessary, the guards shall inspect the visitor's personal items (i.e., purse, grocery bag, etc.)
 - Items brought in by visitors for consumers that are determined restricted articles must be secured outside of the building (i.e., vehicle, etc.).
- Visitors will check in at the nursing station before visiting a consumer.
- Inpatient Unit staff will restrict any visitors who the staff assess as a threat to the safety and security of the therapeutic milieu.

Staff on the Inpatient Unit and Keys:

- All staff will be observed entering and leaving the unit by the Inpatient Unit staff.
 - Keys for the Inpatient Units are only issued to Inpatient Unit staff whose duties require the use of such key.
 - Staff shall not share or duplicate their key.
 - If the staff loses or suspects they lost their key, the staff member shall immediately reported it to the nursing supervisor.

REFERENCES

- Amended Permanent Injunction filed June 30, 2005

APPROVED: 	Date: 
_____ Wilfred Aflague Director	