STATEMENT:

Healthcare Facilities (HCFs) will develop policies and procedures that identify the responsibilities and scope of activities of security in performing patient intervention activities. Patient intervention activities include performing patient watches, holds, restraints and seclusions relative to the medical evaluation or treatment of patients.

INTENT:

- a. Management of patient care from the time of presentment for care, to the time of discharge, is the responsibility of clinical care staff.
- b. When security is involved in patient intervention activities, such intervention will be under the direction and supervision of clinical care staff. Security may take independent action when presented with circumstances involving a clear and present danger of bodily harm or danger to property.
- c. The long-term use of security as sitters or in patient watch situations should be avoided unless dedicated security-staffing resources have been allocated for this specific purpose. If other security resources are used, significant efforts should be made to maintain the overall posture of safety on the campus. Placing patients in restraint or seclusion should also include appropriate clinical staff monitoring. If security is used to support this monitoring, the appropriate trai3) Prisoner patients pr supplied devices, which m accordance with IAHSS H

- e. Security will receive training as to their role with established protocols relative to patient watches, holds, and restraining patients. Collaborative training with clinical staff should include de-escalation and proper patient restraint techniques, mental health holds, Against Medical Advice (AMA) discharges as well as accreditation and regulatory agencies.
- f. Security's patient intervention activities should be documented to include requesting care giver, time of request, instructions given, patient name, time, nature, and duration of service rendered and the identity of all security involved in providing the support service.

REFERENCES:

- Stefan, Susan. Emergency Department Treatment of the Psychiatric Patient Policy Issues and Legal Requirements. American Psychology Law Society Series. Ronald Roasch. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.
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