

**Purpose:** As stated in the hospital mission and vision, Cary Medical Center is committed to the promotion of a healthy community which includes the prevention and treatment of disease. Smoking and breathing secondhand smoke are a major cause of preventable disease and death. As such, in consideration of all those who come to our facility, Cary Medical Center is a smoke free campus.

**Policy:** Smoking, the use of tobacco products and any nicotine delivery systems are prohibited on Cary Medical Center's property which includes all vehicles, buildings, grounds on the hospital campus and at all outlying locations. Tobacco refers to cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, cigars, pipes and all electronic cigarettes.

**Procedure:**

**I. Patients:**

Patients who smoke will be identified at the time of admission through the nursing assessment process.

- Smoking cessation education pamphlets will be provided at the time of admission.
- Available smoke cessation pharmaceutical aids are listed in the Cary Medical Center Pharmacy Formulary. Consult the Pharmacist if necessary for information.
- Patient complaints will be trended and reported to the Board of Directors annually.
- Quality improvement efforts will be instituted when indicated.

**II. Employees:**

- a) Smoking is prohibited anywhere within the building and hospital grounds, in Cary-owned and Cary-leased vehicles used by employees; it is also prohibited in employee-owned vehicles used in the course of work, whenever other employees or clients are present in the vehicle, it is also prohibited inside personal vehicles while on campus.
- b) The hospital will make available smoking cessation education materials and programs.
- c) Compliance to this policy is a condition of employment. Noncompliance will be subject to progressive disciplinary procedures.
- d) Employees who do smoke on designated breaks must ensure that they are off the Cary Medical Center campus, ensure they wash their hands thoroughly upon return to work and utilize mints, gum and/or mouthwash. These steps are necessary for the protection of our patients and the reduction of third-hand smoke, a known irritant for Reactive Airway Disease, asthma and COPD.


**III. All Others, Including, But Not Limited To: Volunteers, Visitors, Vendors, etc.**

- a) Employees are asked to support this hospital policy by requesting volunteers, visitors, and vendors to refrain from smoking on the Cary Medical Center campus.
- b) The hospital will make available smoking cessation education materials and programs.
- c) Noncompliant visitors, etc. will be asked to leave. Disruptive behavior will be managed as per the violent behavior policy/procedure.
- d) Incidents will be reported to quality management for quality management improvement efforts.
- e) Community education sessions and promotions will be offered as an ongoing education/public relations program.
- f) Cary Medical Center refuses all donations from the tobacco industry and will not own stock in tobacco companies.

Date of Origin: 8/31/87

Revision Date: 2/1/2013

Review Date:

  
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Chief Executive Officer