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SMOKE-FREE MEDICAL CENTER

Policy:

St. Vincent's Medical Center, a health care institution, is committed to the promotion of quality health care, and the restoration and maintenance of health. In concert with that, the Medical Center advocates nonsmoking as a major component of disease prevention. The Medical Center also recognizes the safety hazards that smoking may cause, therefore, smoking is prohibited in all buildings, property, entranceways, and on any grounds both internal and external, of the Medical Center. Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the Medical Center campus. Areas include, but are not limited to St. Vincent's Medical Center, Family Health Center, Seton Center, Immediate Health Care Centers, The Foundation, The Fairview Building, St. Vincent's College, The Main Street College Campus, and The Manjoney Building at 2720 Main Street. There are no designated smoking areas on the campus or any of its sites.

Purpose:

To establish regulations eliminating smoking by patients, employees, physicians, volunteers, and the general public anywhere on the Medical Center campus, in compliance with the Smoke-Free policy.

Special Instructions, Information, Implementation Procedures:

Employees are asked to be mindful of tobacco odors on their person, which may be offensive to others.

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Smoking is prohibited in all buildings of the Medical Center, including parking garages and lots. This policy applies to all tobacco products including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, herbal tobacco products, and chewing tobacco, none of which will be sold on campus or at any facility owned, leased or operated by the Medical Center.

Enforcement

It is the responsibility of each employee to abide by the Smoke-Free policy. Likewise, employees who observe violations should request in a courteous and tactful manner that the patient, visitor, employee, or physician abide by the Smoke-Free policy regulations.

Non-Compliance

Patients who violate the smoke-free regulations will be asked to discontinue using their tobacco product.

Visitors who violate the smoke-free regulations will be reported to the supervisor or charge nurse. The supervisor or charge nurse shall call Security if the visitor does not abide by the regulations and he/she may be requested to leave the building.

Employees who violate the smoke-free regulations will be disciplined in accordance with the Medical Center Discipline Policy.

Incidents of physician violation of the smoke-free regulations will be referred to the respective Department Chairperson and Chief Medical Officer.

Sale of Smoking Materials

The sale of smoking materials is not permitted in the Medical Center or an any facility owned, leased or operated by The Medical Center.