


Name of Policy: <u>Patients Leaving Hospital Against Medical Advice (AMA)</u> Policy Number: 3364-110-04-06 Department: Nursing Service Approving Officer: AVP Patient Care Services/CNO Responsible Agent: AVP Patient Care Services/CNO Scope: The University of Toledo Medical Center (UTMC)	 Effective Date: 3.15.2021 Initial Effective Date: 5/1981
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy	

(A) Policy Statement

To provide nursing practice guidelines for when a patient leaves the hospital AMA.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To inform the patient of his/her risks and responsibility, to make certain the Physician, Nursing Director (ND), and House Supervisor (HS) are aware of the patient’s desire to leave and to ensure communication with the Admitting Department so they may complete the discharge.

(C) Procedure

1. Notify the medical house officer and ND/HS of the patient’s desire to sign out AMA. Obtain a “Leave from UTMC Against Medical Advice” form (LG005).
2. Inform the patient that signing the form releases the physician and the hospital of all responsibility of his/her care. Inform patient and document complications that could occur from early dismissal.
3. Inform patient that some third-party payers will not cover charges incurred if patient leaves AMA.
4. Request the patient to sign the release form. If the patient refuses to sign but insists on leaving the hospital, make an explicit documentation in the medical record.
5. Document all pertinent information concerning the patient’s actions in the medical record.
6. Place the form in the patient’s medical record.
7. Continue and complete discharge procedure.

Approved by: /s/ _____ Date _____ Monecca Smith, MSN, RN AVP Patient Care Services/Chief Nursing Officer Review: Policy & Standard Committee, 6/10, 4/13,12/17, 6/2018, 3/2021 Revision Completed By: Nancy Gauger, MSN, RN	Review/Revision Date: 1982 1989 2/2005 3/2021 1983 1990 6/18/2008 1984 1/1995 6/17/2010 1985 1992 4.26.13 1986 2/1993 2.27.15 1987 4/1999 12.1.17 1988 1/2002 6/2018 Next Review Date: 3/2024
Policies Superseded by This Policy: 4-06	

