


<b>Name of Policy:</b> <u>Assigning and Reporting Patients' Conditions</u> <b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-110-09-01 <b>Department:</b> Nursing Service <b>Approving Officer:</b> <b>Interim Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)</b> <b>Responsible Agent:</b> <b>Interim Chief Nursing Officer</b> <b>Scope:</b> The University of Toledo Medical Center	  <b>Effective Date:</b> 6/1/2021 <b>Initial Effective Date:</b> 2/1980
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy

**(A) Policy Statement**

All patients are to be assigned a condition status.

**(B) Purpose of Policy**

To provide a means by which patients' conditions can be accurately and uniformly reported.

**(C) Procedure**

1. Upon recommendation of the local Hospital Public Relations Officers and the news media, the Executive Committee of our Medical Staff and most other area hospitals, have agreed upon a set of standard patient condition definitions. These are as follows:

GOOD            Excellent or good prognosis. Patient is conscious. Vital signs stable and within normal limits. Patient is comfortable.

FAIR             Favorable prognosis. Patient is conscious. Vital signs stable and within normal limits. Minor complications and/or patient is uncomfortable.

SERIOUS        Patient is acutely ill, with questionable prognosis. Vital signs may be unstable and/or not within normal limits. There is a chance for improved prognosis.

CRITICAL        Questionable prognosis. Vital signs unstable and/or not within normal limits. Major complications. Death may be imminent.

**NOTE:**

Inquiries by the news media about a specific patient will be directed to the Office of Communication or the Nursing House Supervisor (HS)/Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)/Assistant Nursing Director (AND). First, the HS/CNO/AND identifies the patient's selected directory option, by checking the demographic facesheet and/or the admission plate. Once the directory option is established, only the condition may be given if appropriate. Further inquiries should be directed to the Office of Communication or the person on-call for communications. The on-call person can be reached through the hospital operator. Directory options and associated restrictions are reviewed to ensure appropriate actions are followed.

2. Assignment of a patient's condition should be noted in the Physician's Orders, and by the physician at the time of admission.
3. Patients' conditions are updated in the Care Manager System as needed.

<p><b>Approved by:</b></p> <hr/> <p>Todd Stec, RN          Interim Chief Nursing Officer</p> <p><i>Review: Policy &amp; Standard Committee, 4/12, 6/15, 6/18, 6/21</i>  <i>Revision Completed by: Greg Shannon, MSN, RN</i></p>	<p><b>Review/Revision Date:</b></p> <p>1983 1993 6/2015          1984 5/1995 6/2018          1985 1999 6/2021          1986 2002          1987 2005          1988 6/18/2008          1989 6/17/2010          1990 4/27/12</p>
<p><b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b> 9-01</p>	<p><b>Next Review Date:</b> 6/2024</p>