(A) **Policy Statement**

To ensure the safety of outpatients, elective outpatient Cardiovascular/EP cases requiring general anesthesia or sedation will be cancelled if the patient does not have a ride home with a responsible person.

(B) **Purpose of Policy**

The University of Toledo Medical Center is dedicated to patient safety, recognizing that after-hospital care is an essential part of the patient’s procedure. Because of this, coordinating transportation by a responsible adult requires a certain amount of planning on the patient’s part, and someone must be available to stay and care for the patient during the first 24-hours post procedure.

(C) **Procedure**

(1) The elective outpatient procedure patient will be told by the physician’s clinic, the Cath Lab Nurse Liaison and by reminder call that a responsible person must be available to drive the patient home. If the patient is to return by taxi, a responsible adult must accompany the patient in addition to the taxi driver.

(2) It is requested that the person driving the patient home remain on the campus during the procedure to be available to speak to the physician when the case is finished. However, we do realize this is not always possible. In these cases, there must be a documented phone number for the person escorting the patient home prior to the start of the procedure. The Holding Nurse will make one attempt to reach the driver and if this results in failure to reach the individual, the case will be cancelled. Exceptions to this procedure may be made by the Director of Cardiovascular Services or his/her designee.

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**Policy Superseded by This Policy:**