

NURSING SERVICES GUIDELINE INPATIENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Guideline: Unit Contraband



Policy Number Superseded:

Responsibility: All trained Inpatient Behavioral Health staff

Effective Date:
April 25, 2025

Purpose of Guideline Inpatient Behavioral Health strives to maintain a safe and therapeutic environment for patients, visitors and staff. In order to achieve this, certain items that have been deemed safety risks or safety hazards will not be permitted on the unit. Staff have the right to make exceptions to the list on a case-by-case basis.

Initial Effective Date:
August 2018

Procedure:

Items considered hazardous or contraband that are not permitted:

- (1) Plastic bags.
- (2) Cash, checkbooks, credit cards.
- (3) Spray cans (aerosols).
- (4) No battery-operated items.
- (5) Glass containers, glass objects.
- (6) Nail polish and nail polish remover.
- (7) Compacts with mirrors and mirrors.
- (8) Clothes hangers.
- (9) Crochet/sewing needles.
- (10) Sharp objects including scissors, knives, metal nail files, knitting needles, tweezers, nail clippers.
- (11) Metal combs, hair picks.
- (12) Flip flops, shoes without backs, shoelaces.
- (13) Any liquid containing alcohol, illegal substances, or any substances that could be abused.
- (14) Electronic devices-tape recorders, cameras, TV's, radios, iPods/MP3

- devices, computers, electronic readers, cell phones.
- (15) Weapons.
 - (16) Car keys.
 - (17) Hair dryers, curling irons.
 - (18) Tobacco, electronic cigarettes, lighters, matches.
 - (19) Tube tops, tank tops, short skirts/shorts, see-through garments, gang related clothing, hoodies.
 - (20) Aluminum cans.
 - (21) Jewelry, except for wedding rings and watches.
 - (22) Sporting equipment and musical equipment.
 - (23) Cleaning supplies and laundry detergents.
 - (24) Purses, luggage, backpacks.
 - (25) Pillows, stuffed animals*, blankets from home.
 - (26) Flowers/vases.
 - (27) Outside food/drink/medications.
 - (28) Any other items deemed potentially dangerous or hazardous by staff.
 - (29) Personal assistive devices, rolling walkers, electric scooter/wheelchair.
 - (30) No outside toiletries are permitted without a provider's order (ex: prescription shampoo/lotion).

*NOTE: Stuffed animals are only allowed for children under age 12 with a provider's order

Approved by:
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Chief Nursing Officer

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Review/Revision Completed by:
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January 2020
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April 25, 2028

Reviewed by Policy & Standard
Committee
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