


<b>Name of Policy:</b> Elopement Precautions  <b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-122-13  <b>Approving Officer:</b> Chief Nursing Officer/Medical Director  <b>Responsible Agent:</b> Nurse Director, Inpatient Psychiatry  <b>Scope:</b> The University of Toledo Medical Center		 <b>Effective date:</b> 4/16/2025  <b>Original effective date:</b> 8/1983	
Key words: Kobacker, children, adolescents, safety, elopement, precautions, restrictions			
<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

Some children or adolescents admitted to the Kobacker Center Inpatient Unit may require intensive nursing care in response to runaway behaviors.

(B) Purpose of policy

For the protection of patients.

(C) Procedure

(1) Patients may be placed on elopement precautions by a physician's written or verbal order.

(2) As a result of his/her clinical assessment, the charge nurse or designated RN may place a patient on elopement precautions and request that the physician sign this order during his/her next unit visit.

(3) All elopement precaution orders will be written for a specific length of time and reviewed at the end of their time.

(4) Documentation of patient behavior will be made in the electronic medical record every shift, day and night.

(5) Patients will be frequently reminded by staff that they are safe and will be cared for in a special way.

(6) Patients on elopement precautions will be restricted to activities within the building and will be observed closely when near exits or when being transported off the unit.

(7) All staff need to be aware of the potential for elopement. The medical record will be flagged indicating the patient is on elopement precautions.

(8) The patient's team members will be notified of any patient that is on elopement precautions by the nurse each morning.

(9) If an elopement occurs, the following persons will be notified in the following order:

- (a) Campus Police - give picture and description of patient, clothing and circumstances.
- (b) Toledo Police Department - include patient's current condition and any other pertinent information including date of birth and home address.
- (c) Nursing Director or Administrative Director
- (d) Unit Medical Director
- (e) Parent - and document in medical record of notification or attempts to notify.
- (f) Other necessary team members - i.e., therapist, school.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>/s/ _____  Kassa Casey, MSN, RN  Nurse Director, Inpatient Psychiatry</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>/s/ _____  Tanvir Singh, MD  Medical Director, CAPH Unit</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>/s/ _____  Kurt Kless, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC  Chief Nursing Officer</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p><i>Review/Revision Completed by:</i>  <i>Stephanie Calmes, Ph.D., LPCC-S, LICDC-CS</i></p>	<p><b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b></p> <p>Initial effective date: 8/1983</p> <p>Review/Revision Date:</p> <p>4/94</p> <p>5/1995</p> <p>4/1996</p> <p>5/97</p> <p>5/98</p> <p>4/99</p> <p>8/01</p> <p>1/02</p> <p>4/04</p> <p>3/2007</p> <p>5/17/2010</p> <p>4/8/2014</p> <p>5/26/2016</p> <p>7/12/2019</p> <p>6/1/2022</p> <p>4/16/25</p> <p>Next review date: 4/16/2028</p>
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