LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER - SHREVEPORT

PRISONER - PATIENT

Purpose:

To provide and maintain a safe environment for all personnel and visitors during hospitalization of a prisoner-patient.

Policy:

1. All prisoners treated at LSUHSC shall be provided a guard by the law enforcement agency having custody of the prisoner.

2. Only commissioned police officers* shall be permitted to carry or possess firearms in the Medical Center. (* A member of a recognized municipal, Parish, State or Federal police force or agency).

3. No one shall be allowed to carry or possess firearms on the Psychiatric Unit – 10th Floor. A weapon lock box is available on the 10th floor at the entrance of the unit.

4. Admission of prisoner patients
   
   A. If the prisoner has been brought to ED, Patient Processing shall obtain the patient information and complete the admitting process in the ED area.

   B. If the prisoner is being admitted from another area, ie, clinic, the prisoner shall go to the detention cell while the guard accompanying the prisoner brings the following information to Patient Processing:

      Prisoner name
      Date of Birth
      Race
      Social Security Number if available

5. Patients who meet the chronological age requirement for Pediatrics, but who are admitted on prisoner status, shall not be admitted to the Pediatric Unit. These patients must be admitted to the appropriate adult unit, i.e. Medical, Orthopedic, etc.

6. Prisoner-patients shall not share a room or bathroom with any other patient except another prisoner patient and shall have a guard at his/her bedside at all times.
7. Prisoner-patients shall be shackled upon entering the hospital and shall remain shackled throughout their stay unless their medical treatment or condition dictates otherwise, as determined by a physician.

8. Prisoner-patients are not allowed telephone privileges.

9. When it becomes necessary to transport prisoner-patients within the medical center, the freight elevators shall be utilized.

10. All guarded prisoners-patients shall be denied visitors except terminal cases and those cases with special consideration as approved by the custodial authority and Hospital Administration. When authorized, prisoner-patient visitors shall be escorted by the University Police. (see Hospital Policy 2.16).

11. In the event of the death of a prisoner-patient, University Police shall notify the law enforcement agency having custody of the prisoner. Patient Processing shall notify the coroner’s office of all prisoner patient deaths.

12. The daily census from each nursing unit shall indicate all those patients under guard so that the information desk personnel do not allow visitors for those patients.

13. The nursing staff shall contact Hospital Administration and University Police if the guard does not comply or stay at the bedside, or for any other problems with prisoner-patients.

14. Prisoners brought to the institution to be seen in a clinic shall remain in the detention cell until the clinic calls for them.

15. Prisoner-patients shall receive disposable flatware on their meal trays.

Administrator

3/17/04

Date

Approved by Clinical Board 1/12/01, 3/16/04
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