


**GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY MANUAL**

APPROVED BY:  Peter John D. Camacho, MPH Hospital Administrator/CEO	RESPONSIBILITY: Hospital-wide	EFFECTIVE DATE: April 12, 2018	POLICY NO.: A-RI210	PAGE: 1 of 4
TITLE: PATIENT RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS				
LAST REVIEWED/REVISED: 10/2017				
ENDORSED: EMC 10/2017, MEC 01/2018, Q&S 03/2017, BOT 03/2018				

PURPOSE:

To define the rights and responsibilities for children/adolescents admitted to Guam Memorial Hospital Authority (GMHA).

POLICY:

In addition to the rights of adult patients, the needs of children/adolescents and they with their parents/guardians shall have the following rights:

I. RESPECT FOR:

- A. Each child and adolescent as a unique individual;
- B. The care-taking role and individual response of the parent;
- C. Provision for normal physical and physiological needs of a growing child to include nutrition, rest, sleep, warmth, activity and freedom to move and explore.

II. CONSISTENT, SUPPORTIVE, AND NURTURING CARE WHICH:

- A. Meets the emotional and psychosocial needs of the child. Fosters open communication;
- B. Provision for self-esteem needs which will be met by attempts to give the child;
- C. The reassuring presence of a caring person especially a parent;
- D. Freedom to express feelings or fears with appropriate reactions;
- E. As much control as possible over both self and situation;
- F. Opportunities to work through experience before and after they occur, verbally in play or in other appropriate ways;
- G. Recognition and reward for coping well during difficult situations;
- H. Provisions for varied and normal stimuli of life which contributes to cognitive, social,

emotional and physical developmental needs;

- I. Play, educational and social activities essential to all children and adolescents;
- J. Information about what to expect prior to/during and following procedure/experience and support in coping with it;
- K. Participation of children/families in decisions affecting their own medical treatment;
- L. Minimization of hospital stay duration in recognizing discharge planning needs.

DEFINITION:

Emancipated Minor: A young person who is legally entitled to be treated as an adult through a court order, marriage, military service, or being a parent.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

I. PARENTS/FAMILY* SHALL HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR:

- A. Continuing their parenting role to the extent of their ability and maintaining courteous, if not civil, interactions with the providers and caregivers for the patient.
- B. Being available to participate in decision making and providing staff with knowledge of parents/family whereabouts, giving out accurate information about the medical/family history of patient which is integral in providing effective medical care to the patient.

II. PHYSICIANS SHALL HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR:

- A. Emancipated minors who are guided by the information provided to the minor patient by the physician.
- B. Determining if the minor patient, whether emancipated or not, is not able to fully understand the information being provided. In this case, the physician has the responsibility to inform the minor patient that he/she has the right to request for an adult. This would apply whether the adult is being requested for the child/adolescent patient or whether the adult is being requested by an emancipated minor.

* The family consists of those individuals responsible for physical and emotional care of the child on a continuous basis, regardless of whether they are related.

PROCEDURE:

In addition to the "Patient Rights and Responsibilities", the Patient Registration staff will also provide the patient's parents or guardian upon admission, the Patient's Rights and Responsibilities for Children/Adolescents documents (Attachment I).

RELATED POLICIES:

- Policy No. 6311-II-A-2, Pediatric Rights and Responsibilities of Parents/Guardian of the Pediatric Ward/PICU Unit Manual

- Policy No. A-RI200, Patient's Rights and Responsibilities of the Administrative Manual

RESCISSION:

Policy A-RI210, Patient Rights for Children/Adolescents of the Administrative Manual made effective January 11, 2010.

ATTACHMENT:

- I. [Patient Rights and Responsibilities for Children/Adolescents](#)

ATTACHMENT I

Inpatient /Outpatient Admission

**GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY
PATIENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS**

In addition to the rights of adult patients, the needs of children/adolescents and they with their parents/guardians shall have the following **rights**:

A. RESPECT FOR:

1. Each child and adolescent as a unique individual;
2. The care-taking role and individual response of the parent;
3. Provision for normal physical and physiological needs of a growing child to include nutrition, rest, sleep, warmth, activity and freedom to move and explore.

B. CONSISTENT, SUPPORTIVE, AND NURTURING CARE WHICH:

1. Meets the emotional and psychosocial needs of the child. Fosters open communication;
2. Provision for self-esteem needs which will be met by attempts to give the child;
3. The reassuring presence of a caring person especially a parent;
4. Freedom to express feelings or fears with appropriate reactions;
5. As much control as possible over both self and situation;
6. Opportunities to work through experience before and after they occur, verbally in play or in other appropriate ways;
7. Recognition and reward for coping well during difficult situations;
8. Provisions for varied and normal stimuli of life which contributes to cognitive, social, emotional and physical developmental needs;
9. Play, educational and social activities essential to all children and adolescents;
10. Information about what to expect prior to/during and following procedure/experience and support in coping with it;
11. Participation of children/families in decisions affecting their own medical treatment;
12. Minimization of hospital stay duration in recognizing discharge planning needs.

C. FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY:

1. Parents/Family* shall have the responsibility for:
 - a. Continue their parenting role to the extent of their ability
 - b. Being available to participate in decision-making and providing staff with the knowledge of parent/family whereabouts.

* The family consists of those individuals responsible for physical and emotional care of the child on a continuous basis, regardless of whether they are related.