

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE MANUAL

SECTION II:	ORGANIZATION FOCUSED FUNCTIONS
CHAPTER 7:	Management of the Environment of Care
PROCEDURE 7.35:	Tobacco and E-Cigarette Free Environment
REVISED:	06/01/09; 2/8/16; Reviewed 06/18
Governing Body Approval	03/12/15; 2/25/16; 06/27/2018(<i>electronic vote</i>)

PURPOSE: To create a healthy environment in which all patients, visitors, tenants and employees of Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH) may live and work in a Tobacco Free Environment.

SCOPE: All patients, families of patients, visitors, tenants and employees of CVH

POLICY:

Medical evidence clearly shows that tobacco is harmful to the health of smokers and nonsmokers. In an effort to provide a healthy environment for patients, employees, tenants and visitors, CVH campus and BHSAS are tobacco free. E-cigarettes are also prohibited as there are safety concerns regarding both potential health risks and environmental hazards.

PROCEDURE:

I. Education and Notification

- A. All patients and employees are informed of the potential harmful effects of smoking and tobacco use. The hospital offers the opportunity to participate in tobacco cessation programs and offers tobacco education resource materials to all Units. Those patients and employees who seek specific treatment for smoking cessation will be supported in this effort. As part of each patient's individual assessment by his/her Attending Psychiatrist, the various options for managing tobacco addiction will be addressed.
- B. Patients, employees, tenants and visitors will be informed of the tobacco-free policy at CVH.

II. Tobacco-Free Campus

- A. Smoking (including e-cigarettes) or use of tobacco products of any type are prohibited anywhere on CVH grounds including in personal automobiles and parking lots.
- B. The sale of cigarettes, tobacco products and smoking materials is prohibited.

- C. Possession of tobacco and/or smoking materials in any form by patients is not permitted.
 - 1. Patients have the option to:
 - a. Dispose of their tobacco products; or
 - b. Give the tobacco products to family or friends to remove from the campus; or
 - c. Have their tobacco products stored with personal belongings to be returned upon discharge.
- D. The policies of the tobacco free campus extends to include hospital supervised or escorted trips and activities.
- E. In the event that the hospital participates in events with persons in recovery from many locations (NAMI Walk, statewide consumer picnic), patients will be urged to remain tobacco free, but will not be criticized for tobacco use at the events.
- F. Temporary Leaves or trips where a patient is not escorted by staff are not included in this policy.
- G. For individuals who use tobacco on the campus in violation of this policy, the initial approach will be to recognize that tobacco use is an addiction.
 - 1. Compassionate and respectful interventions will be undertaken to assist individuals in abiding by the tobacco free policy.
 - 2. Individuals who violate this tobacco free procedure will be offered counseling and resource referral as well as support.
 - 3. Situations in which an individual repeatedly violates the tobacco free policy will be referred for review by administration.