

**Memorial Hospital Sweetwater County
Rock Springs, Wyoming**

DEPARTMENT: Facility Wide

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SECTION:

SUBJECT: Tobacco/Smoke Free Environment

INITIATION DATE:

REVIEWED:

REVISED:

PURPOSE:

Memorial Hospital recognizes the serious healthcare issues associated with tobacco use. The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe and healthy environment for our team members, medical staff, visitors, patients and the community.

POLICY:

Memorial Hospital will provide a tobacco free and smoke free environment including all buildings, grounds and vehicles. Tobacco includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and dip.

PROCEDURE:

- Tobacco free signage is posted at all entrances to Memorial Hospital, Hospital's grounds and buildings.
- Tobacco free environment information is available in the lobbies of all Memorial Hospital Buildings.
- All patients and visitors will be informed of Memorial Hospitals Tobacco/Smoke Free environment Policy.
- Nicotine replacement gum and/or hard candy are available for those visitors requesting nicotine replacement.
- Nicotine replacement therapy is available to inpatients with a physicians order.

Clinical Team Member Responsibilities/Inpatient Smokers

Physicians: The attending physician should assess and discuss the need for nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) with the patient, and as indicated, write an order for NRT therapy.

Preadmission: When a patient is admitted for elective surgery or a procedure, the attending physician and/or designee should discuss the Tobacco/Smoke Free Environment Policy before hospitalizations.

Nursing: Upon admission, the nurses will ask each patient if they use tobacco products. For those patients who do use tobacco products, the nurse will provide Smoking Cessation educational materials and discuss nicotine replacement therapy (NRT). The attending physician will be contacted for an order for NRT.

Visitors: Informational brochures will be available for all staff to give to visitors who are observed smoking on Memorial Hospital property. Team Members should view this as an opportunity to educate the public on hospital policy. If interested the visitors may be provided with information regarding tobacco cessation counseling resources. Nicotine gum will be available at the nursing stations for visitors upon request. The nicotine will help alleviate cravings and discomfort.

All Team Members Responsibilities

Team Members are expected to adhere to the tobacco/smoke free environment. Use of a non-confrontational manner to other team members, visitors and patients is encouraged. Informational pamphlets should be provided to non-compliant individuals to help educate them about the hazards of tobacco and the purpose of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County.

Team members should and may direct individuals to the nursing station to obtain a sample of nicotine gum.

Managers and Administrative Support Team

Managers will be responsible for encouraging team members to comply. Team members who fail to comply will be subject to corrective action.

Managers and the Administrative Support Team will be responsible for educating team members on the tobacco/smoke free environmental policy and encouraging them to comply.

In the event that a patient or visitor becomes upset regarding the policy, managers and the Administrative Support team are encouraged to intervene.