

Tobacco Free Policy

JONES REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER AND AFFILIATES TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

PURPOSE:

It is the policy of Jones Regional Medical Center (JRMC) to promote the health, well being, and safety of the patients, visitors, and associates while on the Hospital campus. Tobacco is a proven health and safety hazard, both to the tobacco user and non-smokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke, carrying very serious health risks. It has been proven to be the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and is inconsistent with our healthcare mission. The use of tobacco products by our associates compromises our image as a healthcare institution.

The Hospital is committed to:

- Create and provide a safe and healthy environment for all of its patients, associates, volunteers, and visitors.
- Make no tobacco use a normal practice on hospital property
- To promote wellness and disease prevention and to serve as a role model in the community by promoting a tobacco-free environment.
- Assist both patients and associates who wish to quit using tobacco products.

DEFINITION:

Tobacco use refers to the use of any tobacco products including smokeless tobacco products. For associates of JRMC this includes the odor of tobacco or smoke on the breath or clothing, per the JRMC Dress Code policy.

POLICY:

A. The use of tobacco products is prohibited:

- In all areas within hospital buildings
- On all property maintained by the hospital, whether leased or owned, adjacent sidewalks, and parking lots.
- In all vehicles owned, leased, or rented by the hospital
- In all associate vehicles when parked on hospital property

B. This policy covers all individuals working, visiting, or receiving medical care within the boundaries of this hospital property. This policy also includes vendors and contractors.

PROCEDURES:

1. No tobacco products shall be sold anywhere on hospital property.
2. Signs stating that the entire hospital campus is tobacco free will be prominently posted at all campus and building entrances and other conspicuous places. All ash receptacles will be removed from the hospital grounds.
3. People who wish to consider employment at JRMC will be notified of its tobacco-free campus through information provided on the hospital's website, job advertisements, and job applications.
4. Associates will be advised of the provisions of this policy during new hire orientation. Supervisors will be responsible for notifying their associates of the provisions of this policy and assisting with enforcement. All associates are authorized and encouraged to communicate this policy with courtesy and diplomacy regarding patients and visitors. This policy will be communicated to the public through signs, announcements, newsletters, media events, advertisements, the hospital website, and job postings.
5. Associates may attend tobacco cessation counseling free of charge during non-worked time. Announcements regarding cessation, counseling and any incentives offered by administration will be communicated through associate newsletters, e-mail, and posted announcements. The state and national tobacco quit lines will be promoted as well.
6. Associates smoking or using tobacco products on the hospital campus are in violation of the stated policy and subject to disciplinary action. Discipline for such violations will normally apply as follows:

- First offense – verbal warning

- Second offense – written warning
 - Third offense – may result in suspension without pay
 - Fourth offense – Disciplinary action up to and including termination
7. Violations of this policy by volunteers, students, or contracted employees will be addressed by the appropriate manager and in accordance with hospital policy.
 8. Administrative personnel, managers and supervisors are to ensure that the Tobacco Free policy is followed. All staff are responsible for approaching associates, patients and visitors who are violating this policy to remind them of the policy.
 9. Patients and visitors will be notified of this policy prior to arrival whenever possible or during the admission process.
 10. Standing medication orders approved by the medical staff may be requested for a nicotine dependent patient. Recommended:
- Gum
 - Lozenge
 - Transdermal patch

Patients will be advised by a nurse or physician regarding cessation counseling, nicotine replacement therapy, and the policy. All patients' tobacco use status will be assessed on admission and patients will be referred to cessation resources. If a patient insists on using a tobacco product (after all other means of care and counseling have been exhausted), the attending physician will be notified. Appropriate forms will be completed for the patient's record and actions will be documented.

50080-34 Tobacco Free Environment Policy

<http://www.jonesregional.com/body.cfm?id=536>