

I. SCOPE

All hospital personnel.

II. PURPOSE

To outline the hospital's philosophy regarding smoking by employees, patients and visitors.

III. POLICY

- A. In the interest of promoting good health, Avista Adventist Hospital does not sell any materials used for smoking or tobacco use, such as cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, or matches.
- B. Avista Adventist Hospital is committed to the promotion of health. Smoking is the major cause of preventable deaths and diseases in the United States. Secondhand smoke has been proven to cause health problems for non-smokers. Thus, for the health of non-smokers, the hospital will not permit smoking anywhere on the hospital campus.
- C. Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the hospital campus, and in clinics owned and operated by the hospital.
- D. Patients
  - 1. Patients are not permitted to smoke in their rooms, no exceptions. The advent of the Nicoderm patch, Nicorette gum and other nicotine replacement therapy products offer options to patients who smoke, however, the use of these products should take place only under the authorization and supervision of the patient's physician.
  - 2. If patients express a desire to quit smoking, a variety of educational material and referral sources are available through the Respiratory Department.
- E. Visitors: Visitors will be asked to refrain from smoking while visiting our campus. In keeping with Avista's values, employees are asked to use their best judgment and a gentle approach when discussing this with visitors.
- F. Employees
  - 1. Avista Adventist Hospital is sensitive to the needs of employees, patients and guests, and is committed to the preservation of the health and wellness of all. Many people find the smell of smoke, even the residue left on clothing, etc. to be offensive. Some people, especially respiratory patients, have negative health reactions to cigarette smoke and residue. In addition, smoking is the single most preventable cause of illness and early death and is the most frequent cause of hospital fires. The management of Avista Adventist Hospital believes its staff should act as role models for patients and guests by not smoking. Therefore, employees will not be permitted to smoke or use tobacco products anywhere within the hospital or on the hospital campus. In addition, employees are expected to report to work free of the smell of smoke and remain smoke-free during their entire work shift. Failure to comply with this policy is cause for disciplinary action.
  - 2. Supervisors and department heads are responsible for ensuring compliance with the letter and spirit of this policy, and violations should be referred to them.

REFERENCES: Employee Handbook