



# Research Psychiatric Center

## Safety Reminders for Patients and Families

A safe environment for patients and their families as well as staff is important to us. Safety is everyone's responsibility. For this reason, please observe and follow the following information to better help us ensure the safety of all.

- Research Psychiatric Center is a No-Smoking Facility. There is no smoking permitted in patient rooms or any other inside part of the facility. Patients have specific smoke breaks outside in the patio area at specific times. For senior adults, please use your call light for assistance, especially in traveling to the bathroom. Because some medications may cause a difference in your blood pressure, always remember to get up slowly, sit on the side of the bed, and steady yourself before standing.
- While they happen only rarely, in the event of a fire at Research Psychiatric Center, leave your room, close the door behind you, and go to your nurse station for directions. Patients may, at times, become upset and strike out at others or attempt to harm themselves. In the event of such an occurrence, go to an area on your unit, away from the patient, and follow the directions of the staff.
- To prevent lost or stolen belongings, limit the number of items brought in. Please do not bring any items of value to the hospital. To avoid injuries to the foot and reduce the chance of falls, wear shoes at all times. Socks alone are not allowed unless the patient's therapy dictates otherwise.
- No lighters, sharp objects, medications or alcohol are to be brought in by family or visitors. During visiting hours, please interact with your family members only.
- Do not bring electrical items or glass containers to the hospital. Wear your hospital identification wristband. This is especially important for administering medication and having laboratory work done.
- For better assurance of your own health, do not borrow or loan out clothing or personal items. Do not hoard your medications, but take them as they are given to you.
- Please do not adjust the room thermostat. Notify staff to assist you. Question the staff if you do not know the medication that is being administered.
- Patients are provided with meals as well as snacks. Food brought in from the outside is not allowed without the prior approval of your treatment team. Please report any unsafe conditions to staff who will forward the information to our Safety Officer. If you see an unsafe situation, report it to the staff immediately.
- For males, staff will assist you with shaving. To prevent the possible injury of self or others, do not keep any razor blades or other shaving materials in your possession. Beware of roommates and other patients who may express to others, including you, that they have thoughts of harming themselves or others.
- Always lock your car and keep items out of view. Notify the staff if you ever feel unsafe.
- Do not leave purses/bags unattended. If you feel your roommate is acting differently/abnormally, please contact staff.

*Your feedback is important to us. If you are more comfortable communicating to us on how we can improve on patient safety at the time of your discharge, please do so as part of our patient satisfaction evaluation.*