



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES  
P. O. BOX 1237 TRENTON 08625

December 20, 1968

TO: ALL LICENSED OR APPROVED INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES  
RE: GUIDE FOR REVISED REGULATIONS ON PATIENT OR RESIDENT SMOKING

The State Board of Control at its meeting on October 30, 1968, after reviewing the recommendation of the Hospital Licensing Board, approved a Guide for Revised Regulations on Smoking in medical and residential institutional facilities. This guide replaces the regulations on patient smoking approved by the Department on April 24, 1968 and has been made a part of the Manuals of Standards for all licensed and approved institutional facilities.

A copy of the "Guide for Revised Regulations on Patient or Resident Smoking" is attached and it is requested that you acknowledge receipt by signing and returning the form below. Any question regarding the regulations should be directed to Mr. Thomas M. Russo, Chief of the Bureau of Community Institutions.

Sincerely yours,

*Lloyd W. McCorkle*

Lloyd W. McCorkle  
Commissioner

LWM:23  
RP

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Bureau of Community Institutions  
Department of Institutions and Agencies  
P. O. Box 1237  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

This will acknowledge receipt of the Guide for Revised Regulations on Patient or Resident Smoking adopted by the State Board of Control on October 30, 1968.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Institution

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Department of Institutions and Agencies

GUIDE FOR REVISED REGULATIONS ON PATIENT  
OR RESIDENT SMOKING

The following guide for revised regulations on patient or resident smoking, adopted by the State Board of Control on October 30, 1968, and effective on that date, are applicable to all medical and residential institutional facilities licensed or approved by the Department. These regulations replace those previously approved by the Department on April 24, 1968 and have been made a part of the Manuals of Standards for licensed or approved institutional facilities.

1. As provided in the rules of the National Fire Codes, smoking regulations shall be adopted and shall include the following minimal provisions:
  - a. Smoking shall be prohibited in any room, ward, or compartments where inflammable liquids, combustible gases, or oxygen are used or stored and in any other hazardous locations. Such areas shall be posted with NO SMOKING signs.
  - b. Smoking by patients or residents classified as not responsible shall be prohibited.
  - c. Ashtrays of noncombustible material and safe design shall be provided in all areas where smoking is permitted.
  - d. Metal containers with self-closing cover devices shall be provided in all areas where smoking is permitted. The most rigid discipline with regard to prohibition of smoking may not be nearly so effective in reducing incipient fires from surreptitious smoking as the open recognition of smoking. Proper education and training of the staff and attendants in the ordinary fire hazards and their abatement is unquestionably essential. The problem is a broad one, variable with different types of arrangements and buildings, and the effectiveness of rules of procedures, necessarily flexible, depends in large part upon the management.

2. Since the removal of cigarette vending machines does not seemingly decrease smoking or the smoking hazard, they should be retained or replaced, but have affixed to each a prominent sign emphasizing the dangers of smoking in a medical or residential facility. Sales in medical facilities should be limited to vending machines or coffee shops, not carts.
  3. Educational programs for personnel, patients or residents, employing pictures, pamphlets, and lectures should be instituted.
  4. Physicians, nurses, and other personnel should be instructed not to smoke in the lobby, in the corridors, or in the presence of patients or residents.
  5. Smoking areas for physicians, employees, visitors, residents and ambulatory patients should be designated.
  6. Smoking by patients in bed shall be permitted by order of the physician and under regulations promulgated for the safety and welfare of the patient. In all cases, the bedside table should have an ashtray large enough to retain a smoldering cigarette however it may fall after it burns.
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