

PC.34.2.4 Ethical guidelines.

PC.34.3 Staff members are aware of and implement all relevant policies and associated care plans.

PC.34.4 Patient's medical record reflects the use of these policies and plans.

**Standard Intent:**

Hospitals care for patients with a variety of health care needs. Some patients are considered high risk because of their age, their condition, or the critical nature of their needs. Children and the elderly are commonly placed in this group, as they frequently cannot speak for themselves, do not understand the care process, and cannot participate in decisions regarding their care. Similarly, the frightened, confused, comatose, or emergency patient is unable to understand the care process when care needs to be provided efficiently and rapidly.

When serving any of the high-risk patients, the hospital establishes and implements guidelines and procedures for the services provided for and the patients served.

**PC.35 The hospital has a policy for patients permitted to leave the organization during the planned course of treatment.**

PC.35.1 The policy defines categories of patients permitted to leave the hospital during hospitalization.

PC.35.2 The policy defines the maximum duration to go for out on pass.

PC.35.3 The policy defines the assessment requirements before leaving the hospital and upon return.

PC.35.4 The policy defines how medications will be dispensed in amounts enough to cover the out on pass period.

**Standard Intent:**

There must be a process to guide when the hospital permits patients to leave the hospital for a period of time (such as on a weekend "pass").

The policy include:

- Defines categories of patient permitted to leave.
- Duration.
- Assessment required before leave.
- How to dispense medications during out in pass period.

**PC.36 The hospital has an effective process for consultations between specialty services.**

PC.36.1 The consulting physician completes a consultation request that defines:

PC.36.1.1 Date and time of consultation.

PC.36.1.2 Name and designation of consulting physician.

PC.36.1.3 Name and designation of consulted physician.