



Current Status: *Active*

PolicyStat ID: 4486996



Implementation: 01/2018
Effective: 01/2018
Last Reviewed: 01/2018
Last Revised: 01/2018
Next Review: 01/2019
Owner: Angela Graves
Policy Area: General Operating Policies
References:
Applicability: PH&S Oregon Region

EMTALA: Medical Screening Examination

General Operating Policy

Effective Date: PMH 1/2018

OBJECTIVE

To guide Emergency Department (ED) staff and other Providence St. Joseph Health employees responsibilities, when an individual presents to the Emergency Department and/or hospital property seeking medical services.

Definitions

A Medical Screening Exam (MSE) is an exam completed by qualified medical personnel to determine whether or not an emergency medical condition or active labor exists.

Hospital property includes the entire main hospital campus, the parking lots, sidewalks, driveway and hospital departments. Buildings owned by the hospital that are within 250 yards of the hospital are also considered part of the hospital property.

POLICY

- A. Patients who present to the ED requesting medical services will receive a Medical Screening Examination, regardless of their ability to pay, to determine if an emergency medical condition exists. This examination is performed by qualified medical personnel as defined by Oregon Medical Staff policy.
- B. If an individual who is not a hospital patient comes elsewhere on hospital property (see definition above) employees will ensure they arrive to the Emergency Department where a Medical Screening Exam is offered if;
 1. The individual requests examination or treatment for an emergency medical condition.
 2. If a prudent layperson observer would believe that the individual is suffering from an emergency condition.
- C. The Medical Screening Examination should not be delayed in order to obtain insurance or payer information.
- D. The Medical Screening Examination may include diagnostic studies and interventions necessary to determine if an emergency medical condition exists.

- E. The LIP may refer the patient for ongoing care, which may include, but not be limited to, admitting the patient to the hospital, transferring the patient to another facility or follow-up with a community provider.

References

1. ED Practice Guideline:Triage - Adult
2. ED Policy: Patient Leaving ED Before Treatment Completed
3. GOP: Emergency Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) Patient Transfers Between Facilities
4. ED Policy: Care and Transfer of the Obstetrical Patient: Process and Decision-Making
5. Providence Health & Services - Oregon - Professional Staff: Policies and Procedures
6. Emergency Nurse Association, Sheehy's Emergency Nursing Principles and Practice, Sixth edition, Mosby 2010

Approvals

Theron Park

Chief Executive, Oregon Delivery System

Attachments:

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

Approver	Date
Shelly Haines: Executive Administrative Assistant	01/2018
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