

<b>TITLE: SMOKING POLICY</b>		
<b>FACILITY:</b> St. Vincent's East	<b>FUNCTION:</b>	<b>ORIGINATING DEPT:</b> ADMINISTRATION
<b>HOSPITAL SHARED POLICY?</b> _X_ Yes      ___ No		<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> Feb 1, 2008
<b>DOCUMENT NUMBER:</b> 11501-205		<b>LAST REVIEW DATE:</b> 01/2008
<b>ORIGINATION DATE:</b> 12/28/2000		<b>LAST REVISION DATE:</b> 01/10/2008
<b>APPROVAL DATE:</b> 12/28/2000		<b>RETIREMENT DATE:</b>
<p><b>POLICY</b></p> <p>In keeping with the core values, St. Vincent's East Hospital as a provider of health care in this community and in respect for the health of individuals, wishes to establish and maintain the most appropriate environment in which to deliver health services. To this end, it is the policy of St. Vincent's East to provide a smoke-free environment.</p>		
<p><b>PROCEDURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Smoking is not permitted inside any St. Vincent's East-owned or leased facility or any facility on the St. Vincent's East campus.</li> <li>II. Designated outside smoking areas are provided at the following locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Outside the Emergency Department 3<sup>rd</sup> floor</li> <li>B. Outside Same Day Services 3<sup>rd</sup> floor</li> <li>C. Outside Dietary 2nd floor- Associates Only</li> </ul> <p>After hours smokers should be directed to the Same Day Services designated smoking area.</p> </li> <li>III. Physician orders allowing a patient to smoke in their room will not be implemented or accepted. Upon physician order, nicotine alternative products are available to assist patients having difficulty with smoking cessation during their stay.</li> <li>IV. Lists of smoking cessation resources are available on the patient care units.</li> <li>V. Patients may be allowed to leave the Nursing Unit to smoke in an approved "designated smoking area" if all of the following criteria are met:</li> </ul>		

*The contents of this document rescind any previous document covering similar material.  
The online version of this document is deemed current.*

- i. A physician order for the patient to leave the unit to smoke.
  - ii. Condition is stable enough to allow the patient to leave the unit unattended and/or without a PCA pump.
  - iii. The patient is not on a monitored unit
  
- VI. Patients meeting the above criteria and desire to go outside to smoke will be asked to sign a release of responsibility regarding smoking (attachment A). Hospital associates are not allowed to escort or assist patients outside of the hospital for the purpose of smoking.
  
- VII. Associates found to be in violation of this policy (e.g., smoking inside the building, at building entrances and other non-employee designated areas) will be referred to the Human Resource Department. (Refer to Expected Behaviors Policy)
  
- VIII. Visitors in violation of the smoking policy will be directed to designated smoking areas.

**REFERENCES:**  
Birmingham City Ordinance NO. 05-09

**APPROVAL ROUTING:**  
Safety Committee, Administrative Director of Operations

**REVIEW HISTORY:**

**REVISION HISTORY:**

Attachment A

## ST. VINCENT'S EAST BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

### RELEASE OF RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING SMOKING

St. Vincent's EAST is a smoke-free facility. Smoking within the building is not permitted and smoking on campus is strongly discouraged. **Hospital associates are not allowed to escort or assist patients outside of the hospital for the purpose of smoking.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_(insert name of patient), release St. Vincent's EAST , and all its Associates and Physicians, for any untoward event, injury, fall, device failure, or medical error that may occur when I leave the Unit/Department to smoke. I understand that smoking is hazardous to my health, and may make my current condition worse and/or may make my medical care and treatments less effective. I agree to smoke only in designated smoking areas and to notify the nursing staff when I am leaving the floor and upon my return to notify them of the same.

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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