

## Patient Hold Policy

Changes to be aware of:

- New Epic orders for Medical Hold and Mental Health Hospital Hold. Legal Status Hold order remains for all other holds not covered.
- Responsibilities and processes for Hold orders clarified. This includes a requirement to attempt to inform the patient of medical hold if order is placed.
- Support page for Patient Holds created. Can be accessed from intranet main page under departments -> seclusion and restraint committee -> hold policy forms and Epic orders, or at this link directly: <http://sphome.phhservices.org/SeclusionandRestraintCommittee/Pages/Policy-Forms-and-Epic-Orders.aspx>
- If answer cannot be found on support page, call Ethicist at x4-2333 for non-urgent issues and page Ethics or Psychiatry for urgent patient care issues.
- All the information below will be posted on support page for future reference

### Patient Hold Orders

Medical Hold	Mental Health Hospital Hold	Warrant of Detention	Civil Commitment
Used to facilitate medical treatment	Used to facilitate necessary psychiatric treatment	Court ordered hold directing patient to PMC. Person often brought to ED for medical clearance before going to PMC	Court ordered hold mandating mental health treatment

A court order is in place, a Mental Health Hospital Hold is not required

### What Makes a Patient a Hold Candidate?

- Decisional incapacity, and
- Likely to pose serious/imminent harm or injury to self or others if allowed to leave, and
- At risk for elopement

### Medical Hold

#### Attending Provider Responsibilities

- Determine decisional capacity
  - Place order for Medical Hold (or Emergency Department Medical Hold if in ED)
  - Document initial rationale for order in the progress note
  - If feasible, discuss with patient’s surrogate decision maker
  - Review medical hold order daily to justify continuation; document rationale if order continued.
- Example of daily documentation: “The patient continues to meet the criteria for a medical hold based on the patient’s lack of capacity and the grave medical condition.”

**MEDICAL HOLD**
✓ Accept ✗ Cancel

Frequency:

Starting:    At:

First Occurrence: **Today 1443**

Scheduled Times: [Hide Schedule](#)  
1/18/17 1443

Reference Links: [1. Choose Medical Hold-Notification Statement](#)

Process Inst.: 

A medical order which suspends a patient’s right to leave the hospital based on the attending provider’s clinical judgment that 1) the patient does not have the capacity to make an informed decision to refuse care and treatment, 2) the patient will likely pose serious and imminent harm to self or others if allowed to leave the hospital, and 3) there is reason to believe that the patient may elope from the hospital.

## Mental Health Hospital Hold

### Attending Provider Responsibilities

- Physician or Nurse Practitioners acting as an Attending collaborates with a second physician or a County Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) to determine if patient is suffering from a mental illness and poses a threat of imminent harm to self or others
- Place order for Mental Health Hospital Hold
- Complete “Notice of Mental Health Illness Emergency Hospitalization by a Physician” form with another physician or QMHP
  - Old Form Name: “Notice of Mental Illness Hospitalization”
- Document initial rationale in progress notes

### General Information

- The Mental Health Hospital Hold can be removed by the Physician or the County Court Investigator at any time
- If released by the Court Investigator, the physician can either discharge the patient or present him/her with the option of voluntary hospitalization
- If released by the Physician:
  - The “Notice of Release from Hospital Detention by a Physician” form must be completed
    - ◆ Old Form Name: “Notice of Release of Allegedly Mental Ill
- If released by the Court Investigator:
  - He/she must document the release in the medical record or provide us with their own documentation

MENTAL HEALTH HOSPITAL HOLD✔ Accept ✖ Cancel

Frequency:

Starting:    At:

First Occurrence: **Today 1446**

Scheduled Times: [Hide Schedule](#)

1/18/17 1446

Reference Links: [1. Choose Hyperlink to Notice of Mental Illness Emergency Hospitalization by a Physician](#)

Process Inst.: 

Hold placed by a physician in consultation with another physician or a County Qualified Mental Health Professional for a patient who is 1) suffering from a mental illness and 2) posing threat of imminent harm to self or others as a result of that mental illness. (Called "Notification of Mental Illness Emergency Hospitalization by a Physician").