

	Manual Corporate	Section ADMIN	Type Policy	Pages 4	Number 022-ADM																																	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charlton Campus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> King Campus		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> West 5 th Campus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All SJHH Off Sites Programs and Services																																				
This policy applies to all employees, members of the professional staff, physicians, learners, volunteers, contractors, patients/clients, visitors and all persons who have a relationship with SJHH.																																						
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1.0 Policy Statement

Under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, all Ontario hospital indoor and outdoor grounds must be completely smoke-free. Smoking is prohibited at all St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) Campuses, including gardens, parking lots, in parked cars on our sites and within 9 metres (approximately 29 feet) of hospital entrances and exits. This also includes St. Joe's owned properties that house off-site programs and services throughout the province. **This policy is a reflection of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and applies to all instances where any individual is located on hospital property.**

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2.0 Purpose

The health hazards of tobacco use are well established and recent evidence of the effects of passive smoking indicate increased health risks in non-smokers. In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario, and as such prohibits smoking of Tobacco and Cannabis on all hospital-owned Campuses and properties. Tobacco products are defined as: all cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vapes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, herbal cigarettes, contraband tobacco products and any other like product that contains a health warning from Health Canada or has not been approved by the Canadian Drug Administration (CDA). Cannabis products are defined as marijuana (medical and non-medical/recreational). Smoking is prohibited in personal vehicles when parked on properties owned, leased or managed by SJHH. SJHH strives to provide a healthy smoke-free hospital environment to ensure that those who work, visit or receive care are not exposed to the health risks associated with second-hand smoke. At SJHH, a safe, hazard-free workplace includes clean air. Additionally, as a facility with a mental health and addiction program, it is important that SJHH be smoke-free in order to provide a non-triggering environment for staff and patients/ clients, and visitors struggling with various stages of addiction.

3.0 Expectations

All members of leadership, including senior management, directors, and supervisors are responsible for clearly communicating the Smoke-Free Ontario Act to all staff, physicians, learners, volunteers, contractors, visitors and patients/clients.

- 3.1 All staff, physicians, learners, volunteers, contractors, visitors and patients/clients are expected to continually support and represent SJHH's commitment to maintain a smoke-free environment.
- 3.2 Signage will be posted in visible areas throughout SJHH (internally and externally) to communicate the Smoke-Free Ontario Act to all persons.

4.0 Responsibilities

4.1 Staff, Physicians, Learners, Volunteers, Contractors:

- a) On admission or as soon as possible, the relevant aspects of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act will be reviewed with all patients/clients and their families, or with those individuals who accompany a patient/client.
- b) Will inquire whether the patient/client smokes and document on the *Tobacco Use Inpatient Form* ([refer to documentation](#)).
- c) Are to remind patients/clients and visitors of the *St. Joe's Smoke-Free Policy*.

- d) Are not to accompany patients/clients to smoke or assist them with smoking.

SJHH employees that are found violating the Smoke-Free Ontario Act on SJHH Campus and property will be subject to progressive discipline according to existing policies and the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. Failure to comply with the Act will result in stepped disciplinary action.

4.2 Patients/Clients:

- a) Are not permitted to smoke on SJHH Campuses and properties.
- b) Are not permitted to leave hospital premises to smoke while wearing or transporting any hospital equipment.
- c) May choose to give tobacco and/or cannabis products to a friend or family member for safekeeping. Staff are not permitted to store or provide tobacco or non-medical recreational cannabis products to patients/clients.
- d) Who do not comply with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act are to be respectfully reminded of the Act and requested to stop smoking immediately.

4.3 Visitors:

- a) Are not permitted to smoke on SJHH Campus and property, as outlined by the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and this policy.
- b) Are asked not to supply patients/clients with smoking products.
- c) Those who do not comply with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act are to be respectfully reminded of the Act and requested to stop smoking immediately.
- d) Failure to comply with this Act will result in the visitor being escorted off the Campus/property by Security Professionals at SJHH.

5.0 Enforcement

Failure to comply with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act will be enforced by Security Professionals at SJHH.

Security Professionals on SJHH owned property will be responsible for enforcing, documenting and reporting Smoke-Free Ontario Act infractions by staff, physicians, learners, volunteers, contractors, patients/clients, visitors or any other individual found smoking on hospital property (refer to section 3.0- Responsibilities). For Smoke-Free Ontario Act infractions, Security Professionals at SJHH will complete a Witness Report and fax to the Hamilton Public Health Services ([Refer to documentation](#)). In addition, City of Hamilton/Public Health

Enforcement Officers will perform inspections of all hospital Campuses and off-site owned properties.

Under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, an individual found to be smoking on hospital property in Ontario can face a maximum **fine of \$1,000** (for a first offence.) If a hospital in Ontario fails to fulfill its responsibility under the law, the hospital could face a maximum fine of **\$100,000** for a first offence, or **\$300,000** for any further offence.

6.0 Documentation

Tobacco Use Inpatient Form ([click here to access](#))

Hamilton Public Health Witness Report ([click here to access](#))

7.0 References

Smoke-Free Ontario Act: January 1, 2016

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_94t10_e.ht

8.0 Author(s)

SJHH Tobacco Steering Committee

9.0 Sponsor

10.0 Posting Dates

March 2010; February 2015; June 3rd 2016, October 16th 2018

11.0 Scheduled Review Date

June 2021 or as legislated