

OREGON STATE HOSPITAL

PORTLAND – SALEM

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION 7: Patient Rights

POLICY: 7.002

SUBJECT: **Objectionable Material and/or Subjects
Unsuitable for Viewing by Patients**

POINT PERSON: **DEBORAH HOWARD
DIRECTOR, CONSUMER & FAMILY SERVICES**

APPROVED: 
**NENA STRICKLAND
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT**

DATE: **AUGUST 18, 2010**

I. POLICY

- A. Patients and others in need of mental health services can and are encouraged to advocate for themselves, pursue personal growth, make informed choices, exercise responsibility, and achieve increased independence. This principle must be applied to patient display of material and to patient viewing of television, films, videotape media, CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, electronic games, and audiotapes. Employees of Oregon State Hospital (OSH) are expected to assist patients in making informed choices which promote personal growth and independent living.
- B. No material deemed by a patient's Interdisciplinary Treatment Team to be detrimental to the patient's treatment or overall treatment goals of the program shall be outwardly displayed or presented for viewing by patients on hospital property. Patients requiring exceptional levels of restrictions from access to display of/or viewing of published materials (books, magazines, pictures), television, films, videotape media, CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, websites, electronic games, and audiotapes shall have that reflected in their individual Treatment Care Plan along with goals and methods to progressively reduce the restriction as applicable.
- C. Material which is pornographic that overtly promotes criminal, violent, or self-destructive behavior, or that overtly expresses hatred on the basis of race, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation shall not be displayed or presented for viewing by patients in any areas of the hospital.
- D. Copyright materials in any form, written, film, videotape, may not be used except in strict compliance with applicable laws. If OSH determines that a patient is violating state or federal laws relating to copyrights, licenses, permits, or other proprietary rights, all copied materials and equipment used

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for copying the materials may be confiscated. Confiscated possessions shall be secured for the patient until discharge, or sent home with family.

- E. Oregon State Hospital is under a Public Performance License that permits us to provide "non-theatrical public viewing of movies." This also means that we are allowed only to provide movies that are on an approved list and checked out through the Canteen. This means that all videos/DVDs must go through the Canteen and should not be brought from home, rented, or purchased by the units (except with prior approval from the Director of Rehabilitation Services Department [RSD]).

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. "Pornographic Material" means content which displays lewd and lascivious sexually explicit behavior.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. Guidelines for patient viewing of television, films, videotapes, CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, electronic games, and audiotapes may include a spectrum from unsupervised personal use in the privacy of their own room to complete restriction from any media which would be rated above a PG-13 or equivalent rating.

Guidelines for specific program areas include:

Psychiatric Recovery Services:

Unsupervised personal viewing of R-rated (or equivalent) media in private bed areas and in the community/public areas on the floor/unit.

Forensic Psychiatric Services:

Maximum Security – Limited and fully supervised viewing of R-rated (or equivalent) with prior request in writing approved by the patient's Interdisciplinary Treatment Team. Viewing of R-rated (or equivalent) media shall only be used for treatment or educational purposes.

Medium Security – Unsupervised access to viewing of R-rated (or equivalent) media with approval by the patient's Interdisciplinary Treatment Team. R-rated (or equivalent) media may only be viewed in each individual's personal space.

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Minimum Security (Residential) – Unsupervised personal viewing of R-rated (or equivalent) media in private bed areas and in the community/public areas on the floor/unit.

Patients requiring exceptional levels of restriction from viewing R-rated (or equivalent) media shall have that reflected in their individual Treatment Care Plan along with goals and methods to progressively reduce the restriction as applicable.

Videos, films, CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs, electronic games, and audiotapes provided to units which have a rating over PG-13 (or equivalent) shall be reviewed utilizing information available, which may include internet websites. A committee of select patients and hospital employees shall review select media items for appropriateness of viewing at OSH upon request.

Oregon State Hospital community integration activities, which would include viewing of R-rated movies, require the written approval of the Unit Manager as noted on the pass request form. If viewing of the specific R-rated movie during the community integration activity is denied by the Unit Manager this may be appealed to the committee as identified in previous paragraph.

- B. All procedures and guidelines relating to display of material and what subjects are acceptable for patient viewing and hearing must be developed in consultation and with approval of clinical staff and Rehabilitation Services Department. In the event there is a dispute between a patient(s) and the clinical staff regarding the display of materials under this policy, the Program Director or Department Director shall review the material and decide whether the material may be displayed before display is prohibited by clinical staff.
- C. Program and department guidelines for patient viewing of television, films, videotapes, CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs for computers, and electronic games shall reference the motion picture industry rating scale level clinically appropriate to the patient population. Use of films, videotapes, computer programs, or videotaped television broadcasts rated X (or equivalent rating systems) is strictly prohibited at OSH.
- D. If a video, film, CD, or DVD is to be used for therapeutic purposes and is above a R rating, or is rated R but has not been approved by the hospital for public viewing, the staff wishing to show the movie may present it to the Interdisciplinary Treatment Team with an explanation of its therapeutic

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value, how it would be used (discussion, etc.), and goals in relation to its being shown. By using the rating system, they could address the risks versus the benefits for the group being used for. Also, give a list of patients that would be in the group and viewing the media.

IV. REFERENCES

The Joint Commission, Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals, 2010, Standard PC.02.03.01
OAR 309-108-0000 through 309-108-0020 and 309-118-0000 through 309-118-0050
ORS 426.385
OSH Policy and Procedure 7.006, Patient Grievances

Replaces Oregon State Hospital Policy and Procedure 7.002, *Objectionable Material and/or Subjects Unsuitable for Viewing by Patients*, dated 9/19/2006.