



# Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

## ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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**SUBJECT: CHILD SAFETY SEATS**

**Policy No.: B715**

**Supersedes: 01/15/2020**

**Reviewed: 01/14/2023**

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### POLICY STATEMENT:

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center will provide parents/surrogate of any patient admitted under eight years of age with the following information:

- 1) Summary of current state laws on child passenger safety seats/booster seats;
- 2) Listing of child passenger safety seat programs located within their county; and
- 3) Information describing the risks of death/injury associated with non use or misuse of a child passenger safety seat.

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center will not provide, install or instruct the parent/guardian in the use of car safety seats or booster seats.

### PROCEDURE:

1. The parents, family, or surrogate will be provided with a copy of the California Healthcare Association Release Of A Child Under 8 Years Of Age form 10-3 (attached), either by the Medical Treatment Unit, or by our outpatient clinic staff, prior to the patient's admission (these are outpatients who are scheduled for admission).
2. The physical therapist will evaluate and discuss the proper seating system for the special need child with the family/surrogate.
3. The family will also be provided with information as to where they can purchase the appropriate car seat/booster seat.
4. It is the family/surrogate responsibility to purchase the proper car seat/booster seat for their child. If the family is unable to afford a car seat, they will be referred to Safety Belt Safe USA, which has a listing of all loaner car seat programs in the Los Angeles area.
5. For inpatient children who may be seated in a standard seating system, Nursing will be responsible for educating the family in child passenger safety seating as part of pass criteria or discharge and documenting the training in the medical record.
6. As part of the education process, nursing will distribute to families/surrogates a summary of current state laws on child passenger safety seats and information describing the risks of death/injury associated with non use or misuse of a child passenger safety seat (California Healthcare Association Release Of a Child Under 8Years Of Age form 10-3).

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EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 1997

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

APPROVED BY:

7. The parent/guardian with whom this is discussed will be asked to sign the form to acknowledge that the person has been informed regarding the legal responsibilities of transporting a child.
8. The original signed copy will be placed in the patient's medical records, and the second copy provided to the family/surrogate.
9. Should the family/surrogate require instructions as to proper placement of the car seat or booster seat in their vehicle or proper placement of the child in the car seat or booster seat, they will be referred to their local Police or Fire Department.
10. All patients being transported on Rancho sponsored outings will be transported facing forward and with proper car seats, booster seats and/or restraints.

**REFERENCES:** California Health & Safety Code Sections 1204.3,1268  
California Child passenger Safety Law, Vehicle Code 27363  
California Healthcare Association Consent Manual, Chapter 10, Year 2018  
California Hospital Association Minors and Healthcare Law, Chapter 9, Year 2018  
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Pediatric Clinical Practice Guidelines and Policies 19<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2019 pages 535-539

Reviewed:

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