



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center PHYSICAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

DISPOSITION OF PATIENT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN WHEELCHAIRS

Policy No.: 136
Revised: June 2021
Supersedes: June 2018
Page: 1 of 2

PURPOSE:

To define the disposition of equipment ordered for but no longer needed by a patient.

POLICY:

Standard policy dictates that assistive devices prescribed by the physician and issued to patients to treat specific medical problems become the property and sole responsibility of the patient. Such items include orthoses, orthopedic shoes, plaster splints, prostheses, etc.

Any exception to the above policy will be discussed with the patient by the therapist during the initial evaluation.

When a patient no longer needs the equipment issued or has not taken it home from the hospital, the therapist will use the following procedure to determine the disposition of the equipment.

PROCEDURE:

The following procedures will be followed for disposition of equipment no longer needed by the patient.

- A. The hospital is not permitted to accept used equipment donations to be issued to other patients. Certain items (e.g orthosis, shoes) may be donated by others for use as trial equipment in therapy sessions, but may not be issued for use to another patient. All items must undergo a safety inspection and disinfection prior to use. A donation slip should be issued to the donating party identifying the item(s) donated.
- B. If the equipment is left at the hospital by the patient, the clinician responsible for ordering of the item(s) or the case manager of the area:
 1. Contacts the patient or family for instructions regarding the disposition.

2. If the patient wants the equipment, the patient must make immediate arrangements to pick up the equipment.
- C. Equipment left at the hospital for more than thirty (30) days after above steps are completed will be donated to a county authorized organization, considered donated to the county or salvaged.



Director, Physical Therapy Department