

HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY PROGRAM

POLICY NO. 403

**PURPOSE:**

To establish the commitment of management to support the environmental safety program and its effort to enhance the safety of patients, visitors and staff.

**POLICY:**

At Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, the Governing Body and Hospital Administration support the Environmental Safety Program in its promotion of health and safety. Every reasonable effort shall be made to maintain or enhance the environmental safety of patients, visitors and staff.

Staff (employees, students, contractors, and volunteers) are the most valuable resource of this facility. The Environmental Safety Program has been developed to help our facility minimize the risk of patient, visitor and employee injury and minimize the County’s liability expenditures, so that we can continue to provide essential public services.

**PROCEDURE:**

All staff of this hospital must individually lend their full support and active participation to this program to eliminate unsafe and hazardous conditions. In implementing the program, safety responsibilities shall become incorporated into job descriptions, and staff will be trained in fulfilling their duties. Safety will be part of job performance evaluations, and ongoing dialogue and feedback will be encouraged.

Immediate action will be taken to abate any hazard which gives rise to a risk of imminent harm. When such a hazard exists which cannot be immediately abated without endangering employees, all exposed personnel will be removed from the area of potential exposure, except those necessary to correct the hazardous condition.

The primary responsibility for coordinating the Environmental Safety Program shall rest with the hospital Environmental Safety Officer. The Environmental Safety Officer will regularly consult with and advise the administration on environmental safety matters and is responsible for the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Safety Program. He/she will have the authority necessary to intervene

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/92**

**SUPERSEDES:**

**REVISED: 02/99, 09/04, 03/09, 05/10, 01/14**

**REVIEWED: 11/95, 04/98, 02/99, 01/02, 09/04, 06/06, 03/09, 05/10, 01/14, 01/17**

**REVIEWED COMMITTEE: Environment of Care Committee – 01/17**

**APPROVED BY:**

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**Kim McKenzie, RN, MSN, CPHQ**  
Chief Executive Officer

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**Anish Mahajan, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

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**Patricia Soltero Sanchez, RN, BSN, MAOM**  
Interim Chief Nursing Officer

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whenever environmental conditions exist that pose an immediate threat to the life or health to patients, staff or visitors or poses a threat of damage to equipment or facilities.