



Reference Number:
Original Date: 03/18/2014
Policy: Patient Nondiscrimination Policy

APPROVAL AUTHORIZATION

Signature:
Date:

This policy applies to Public Hospital District No. 1 of Klickitat County

Scope: This policy applies to all members of the Klickitat Valley Health workforce, including employees, medical staff members, contracted service providers, and volunteers, and to all vendors, representatives, and any other individuals providing services to or on behalf of Klickitat Valley Health (“Personnel”).

Purpose: To ensure that all patients and visitors of Klickitat Valley Health are treated with equality, in a welcoming, nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with applicable state and federal law.

Policy: Klickitat Valley Health is dedicated to providing services to patients and welcoming visitors in a manner that respects, protects, and promotes patient rights.

1. Personnel will treat all patients and visitors receiving services from or participating in other programs of Klickitat Valley Health and its affiliated clinics with equality in a welcoming manner that is free from discrimination based on age, race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran or military status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law.
2. Personnel will inform patients of the availability of and make reasonable accommodations for patients consistent with federal and state requirements. For example, language interpretation services will be made available for non-English speaking patients and sign language interpretation will be made available for hearing impaired patients.
3. Personnel will afford visitation rights to patients free from discrimination based on age, race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran or military status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law and will ensure that visitors receive equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences.
4. Any person who believes that he, she, or another person has been subjected to discrimination which is not permitted by this Policy, may file a complaint using Klickitat Valley Health’s complaint and grievance procedure.
5. Personnel are prohibited from retaliating against any person who opposes, complains about, or reports discrimination, files a complaint, or cooperates in an investigation of discrimination or other proceeding under federal, state, or local anti-discrimination law.

Any exceptions to this policy require the approval of the Board of Commissioners.