

PURPOSE: To ensure medically appropriate discharge of ambulatory patients from the facility after they receive moderate / deep sedation or anesthesia (including general, regional, and monitored anesthesia care) that may cause cognitive and psychomotor impairment.

To prevent cancellations on the day of the procedure, reduce adverse outcomes, and promote patient safety and satisfaction.

POLICY:

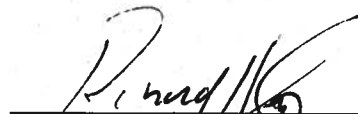
1. Ambulatory patients will be required to identify an adult by name with contact information who will accompany them at the time of discharge for any procedure utilizing sedation or anesthesia. The patient must provide this information to the scheduler, or the procedure will *not be scheduled*. This policy is not applicable to emergency procedures.
2. As appropriate for the patient and planned procedure, the patient may also be instructed about the need for an adult to remain present post-discharge for continuing observation.
3. *Prior to the start of any procedure* utilizing sedation or anesthesia, ambulatory patients will be required to verify the name and contact information of the adult who will accompany them at the time of discharge. *The procedure will be cancelled* if this information is not confirmed.
4. Despite all previous checks, if it is found that an adult is unavailable to accompany the patient home *after completion of the procedure*, the patient will remain on the unit until a responsible adult who is able to receive the patient at their destination can be confirmed. The patient will then be permitted to take a private car (eg, taxi cab, Uber, etc.) home.
 - a. If the patient was administered conscious sedation only, the Attending Physician performing the procedure will discharge the patient if and when medically appropriate.
 - b. If the patient has received medication from members of the Department of Anesthesiology, the Attending Anesthesiologist serving in the role of PACU

physician, in consultation with the Attending proceduralist, will discharge the patient if and when medically appropriate.

- c. Under no circumstances will the patient be allowed to drive home.
- d. If the patient is deemed unfit to travel home alone, the Attending Physician who performed the procedure is responsible for developing an alternative safe plan of care which may include overnight admission.



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Chief Executive Officer



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Date Reviewed: