



**COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING
MANGUM REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

TITLE		POLICY	
AMA		NUR-004	
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE	
Nursing	02/2020		
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE		
Nursing			

SCOPE

This policy applies to all patients who may wish to leave AMA.

PURPOSE

When a patient at the hospital wishes to leave prior to the completion of their visit, the benefits/risks to the patient shall be explained.

PROCEDURE

Once the patient expresses the desire to leave, the nurse shall do the following:

- A. Notify the Medical Provider promptly, giving him/her the opportunity to inform the patient of the benefits/risks that may be involved in leaving.
- B. Educate the patient what leaving against medical advice means. Advise the patient of the risks of leaving against medical advice. Seek to ensure that the patient and/or significant other voice understanding of the risk of their decision and clearly document this in the nurse's narrative notes.
- C. Advise the patient or responsible other to seek medical attention elsewhere if choosing to leave against medical advice.
- D. Complete and have the patient or responsible other sign the Discharge Against Medical Advice and Release of Responsibility form.
- E. If the patient should refuse to sign the AMA form, the nurse should document refusal of the patient to sign the AMA form and notation of second nurse as a witness.
- F. Attach form to patient chart to become a part of the medical record.

- G. In the event the patient/responsible other refuses to sign the form, this fact shall be documented in the chart and on the Discharge Against Medical Advice and Release of Responsibility form.
- H. An incident report will be completed by the primary care nurse or the House Supervisor/Charge Nurse and forwarded to the Quality Manager for review.
- I. House Supervisor and/or Charge Nurse will review situation or contributing factors or problems and will report findings to the Administrator and the Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) on the next business day.
- J. All occurrences of the AMA will be reported to the Quality Committee (QC), Medical Staff Committee (MSC), and Governing Board (GB) on a routine basis.

REFERENCES

NA

ATTACHMENTS

NUR-004A Discharge Against Medical Advice and Release of Responsibility Form

REVISIONS/UPDATES

Date	Brief Description of Revision/Change