

## Non Smoking

Manual/Section: Administration – General	Policy No. 15
Key Words: Smoking	

### 1. PURPOSE:

To create a smoke free environment at CHEO that is in compliance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and local By-laws.

### 2. POLICY:

Smoking is a proven health hazard, both to the smoker and non-smoker. CHEO, as a regional paediatric health care provider is dedicated to the care of children and adolescents, is firmly committed to providing a healthy environment and ensuring that patients, staff, and visitors are not harmed by second-hand smoke.

While CHEO is required to be 100% smoke-free, it recognizes that the absence of a designated smoking-area may impose increased hardship on individuals who choose to smoke. As such, CHEO will provide support and assistance to staff and physicians who wish to quit smoking with resources through [Occupational Health, Safety and Wellness](#), the [University of Ottawa Heart Institute](#), City of Ottawa and [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#).

The smoking restrictions include all walkways or pathways leading to and including in front off any of main entrances to the Hospital, Max Keeping Wing, Research Institute, Research II, the portables and other treatment facilities. Smoking is not permitted in any of the parking lots, including inside personal vehicles, nor in any parks on the site.

Staff are encouraged to help enforce this policy by either asking those smoking on CHEO property to kindly make their way to the designated area off-site, or by informing Security.

Security staff will advise anyone found smoking in a restricted area to comply with CHEO policy and the provisions of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and direct them to an off-site smoking area.

Any individual found to be smoking in the smoke-free areas may be charged with an offense, and if convicted, could face fines up to \$5000.

**3. SCOPE:** All employees, physicians, students, volunteers, patients, hospital visitors.

In compliance with the province's Tobacco Control Act, as well as City/Regional By-Laws, CHEO adopts the following policy respecting smoking, where smoking is defined as the carrying of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other lighted smoking equipment, or the use of an e-cigarette, vaporizer or similar device.

Cannabis product: fresh cannabis, dried cannabis, cannabis oil, and cannabis plants or seeds. \*Taken from Cannabis Act, 2017

Electronic Cigarette (e-cigarette): A vaporizer or inhalant-type device, whether called an electronic cigarette or any other name, that contains a power source and heating element designed to heat a substance and produce a vapour intended to be inhaled by the user of the device directly through the mouth, whether or not the vapour contains nicotine. \*Taken from Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2015.

Tobacco product: tobacco in any form (processed or unprocessed) that may be smoked, inhaled or chewed, including but not limited to snuff, chewing tobacco, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, or snus. For the purposes of this policy, tobacco like products that produce smoke or vapor when in use, such as herbal cigarettes and incense will also be included under this definition.

Vaping: inhaling and exhaling the vapour from an e-cigarette. Health Canada advises the public “not to purchase or use electronic smoking products, as these products may pose health risks and have not been fully evaluated for safety, quality and efficacy by Health Canada”.

**5. RESPONSIBILITY:** Employees, physicians, students, volunteers will comply with the Policy.

Management will ensure compliance with the Policy.

Human Resources will provide copies of the Policy to all new employees at time of hire.

Occupational Health, Safety and Wellness to support smoking cessation program awareness.

Security to execute enforcement of policy and penalties.  
Physical Plant will ensure appropriate signage is posted.

**6. PROCEDURE:**

As part of the Smoke Free Ontario Act CHEO staff are not required to escort patients outside to smoke. Consistent with the CHEO's tobacco harm reduction approach, counseling will be provided as well as nicotine replacement therapy, as appropriate. As per the Smoke Free Ontario Act, all staff have the right to request that patients refrain from smoking when staff are providing services in the patient's residence. Should the patient not wish to comply staff may alternatively meet with the patient in another location.

**Enforcement:** All staff are expected to enforce this policy, ensuring its effectiveness. If a patient, visitor or staff member is witnessed smoking where smoking is prohibited, the following steps are to be followed:

- Approach the person and inform him/her that smoking is not permitted.
- Contact Security to manage the situation if further assistance is required,
- If comfortable and appropriate, report patients and visitors in violation of this policy to their unit, team or program. The EHR may not be consulted by Security or other staff to identify patient's visitors or family members.
- Provide notice to visitors who are in violation with this policy. Visitors may be requested to leave CHEO property by Security. If deemed necessary local police enforcement may be called to assist in removing those who are not compliant or refuse to identify themselves. If appropriate, those contravening this policy will be reported to the City of Ottawa Tobacco Enforcement branch. .
- Ensure any lessee person(s) who is using the CHEO facilities under a contractual agreement is aware that if they are found to be in violation of this policy they may risk termination of their contract.

*Please note: Staff are responsible for notifying Security if they judge it to be inappropriate to address a patient, visitor or fellow staff member.*

**7. CROSS-REFERENCES:** N/A

**8. REFERENCES:** Smoking in the Workplace Act, Bill 194  
 Public Places By-law No. 123-92 (City of Ottawa)  
 Work Place By-Law No. 122-92 (Cit of Ottawa)  
 Smoke Free Ontario Act

**9. ATTACHMENTS:** NA

**10. DEVELOPED BY:** Human Resources and Security