
PURPOSE

,To ensure consistency across hospitals regarding the procurement and distribution of patient clothing.

DEFINITIONS**Hospital**

An inpatient program operated by the department for the treatment of individuals with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance.

POLICY

At the time of admission, hospitals must assess whether the patient requires additional clothing items or a supplemental clothing packet. The clothing packet must contain the following items:

- Seven pairs of underwear.
- Five undergarments.
- Five pairs of pants.
- Five short sleeved shirts.
- Five pairs of socks.
- One pair of shower shoes.
- Three pairs of pajamas.

Patients may receive a complete clothing packet or specific clothing items based on their individual needs. In addition to clothing types required for clothing packets, hospitals must stock the following ancillary clothing types and provide to patients as needed:

- Crew sweatshirts.
- Windbreakers.
- Winter jackets.
- Winter gloves.
- Winter hats.
- Velcro athletic shoes.
- Athletic shorts.
- Bathrobe.
- Slippers.

If a patient requests replacement clothing items due to an ill fit, poor condition, or because clothing has been lost or destroyed, the hospital is to provide, or replace, the clothing item if appropriate.

However, authorization of additional or replacement clothing items at the patient's request should not be routine.

Patients are permitted to possess and wear their own clothes; however, hospitals are not obligated to replace damaged, lost, or stolen personal clothing items with items of a similar value, style, cut, or color, unless the damage, loss, or theft is the fault of the hospital. If the damage, loss, or theft is not the fault of the hospital, hospitals should replace personal clothing items with a similar article of clothing (that is, a shirt for a shirt). See [API 192, Personal Property and Search](#), for additional information and standards regarding patient personal property.

Hospitals must not provide patients with clothing styles (such as jumpsuits) or colors (such as bright orange) that are associated with institutional or correctional settings, or clothing items that incorporate a drawstring.

Upon discharge, hospitals must assess whether a patient requires a supplemental clothing packet or specific clothing items. If it is determined that the patient being discharged requires a clothing packet, or specific clothing items, the hospital must provide one to the individual.

In instances where the Bureau of Grants and Purchasing has contracted for the purchase of patient clothing, hospitals must utilize these contracts. Clothing styles, colors, and sizes must reflect those identified by and purchased through the contract. The Bureau of Grants and Purchasing may be contacted for additional information.

STANDARDS

Unless otherwise specified, hospital administration must establish procedure(s) necessary to ensure that:

- Patient clothing purchased by the hospital that has not been assigned is regularly inventoried.
- Each patient's personal belongings are assessed and inventoried upon admission and, if needed, supplemental clothing or a clothing packet is assigned.
- An inventory of each patient's clothing is conducted not less than quarterly to ensure that all patients have a sufficient quantity of clothing items that are in good condition.

- Once hospital purchased clothing has been assigned to a patient, the clothing becomes the personal property of the patient.
- Due to limited storage space and cost constraints, patients are limited to the following hospital-provided clothing items (patients are permitted to possess additional personal clothing items):
 - Seven pairs of underwear.
 - Five undergarments, pairs of socks, pants, and shirts.
 - Three pairs of pajamas.
 - Two pairs of shoes.
 - One item each of ancillary clothing types.
- If a patient requests clothing replacement(s) due to an ill fit, disrepair, or because clothing has been lost or destroyed the hospital must take the necessary steps to replace the item(s). Clothing replacement requests should only be honored in these circumstances and not routinely authorized.
- Patients are permitted to possess and wear their personal clothing.

REFERENCES

API 192, [Personal Property and Search](#).

CONTACT

For more information concerning this policy, contact the State Hospital Administration.