Kadlec Regional Medical Center recognizes that entering a hospital can be a confusing and intimidating experience for patients and their families or support persons. This is especially true for pediatric patients (children under 18 years of age). The special needs of pediatric patients include the right to care that is individualized based on age, developmental state, and identified needs. They have the right to an environment that is safe and appropriate for treatment of their specific age group, and access to activities of daily living as much as possible. It is the responsibility of every member of the healthcare team to ensure that every patient or surrogate has the opportunity to exercise their rights in accordance with the applicable law, hospital policy, and accepted standards of patient care. Furthermore, the hospital recognizes the responsibility to inform and educate the staff members to ensure adherence to these standards of care. Patients also have responsibilities, and it is the responsibility of every patient to make his or her wishes known.

In keeping with our mission to provide quality medical care, as well as demonstrate our concern for patient’s well-being Kadlec Regional Medical Center has adopted the following Patients’ Rights.

Policy: Notice of Non-discrimination - Kadlec Regional Medical Center, through its employees, medical staff members, residents, interns, contracted service providers and volunteers (collectively referred to in this policy as Kadlec Staff) serve a diverse population and respect the rights of all patients to culturally competent care. Kadlec Staff recognize that each patient is an individual with personal dignity and unique healthcare needs, and provide care focused upon the patient’s needs. Kadlec endeavors to have the patient’s personal, cultural and spiritual values and beliefs supported when making a decision about treatment.

Policy:

1. Kadlec Staff will treat all patients who are receiving services, as well as the patient’s support person(s), 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 characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. Kadlec also does not discriminate against patients based upon economic status or the source of payment for care, such as Medicare or Medicaid.

2. Kadlec offers interpretive services to patients and family members with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), including hearing impaired patients or family members who communicate in sign language. Kadlec also endeavors to provide communication aides to patients with vision issues, cognitive impairments, or speech difficulties. Communication will be tailored to an individual’s age and needs. Kadlec will provide other reasonable accommodations to patients with disabilities so that the patient has equal opportunity to participate in and to benefit from Kadlec’s services.
Please contact Interpreter Services Coordinator for assistance with other needed reasonable accommodations at 800-780-6067 ext. 2817.

3. Kadlec Staff 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 characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law and will ensure that visitors receive equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences.

4. Kadlec Staff will not retaliate against any person who reports concerns about discrimination, files a discrimination complaint, or cooperates in an investigation of discrimination.

5. Any person who believes that he, she, or another person has been subjected to discrimination was denied reasonable accommodation, or experienced retaliation which is not permitted by this Policy, may file a complaint using Kadlec’s complaint and grievance procedure.

PROCEDURE:

1. Kadlec’s [Corporate Compliance Officer] is responsible for coordinating compliance with this Policy, including giving notice to and training all Kadlec Staff on this Policy.

2. Kadlec Staff will determine eligibility for and provide services, financial aid, and other benefits to all patients in a similar manner, without subjecting any individual to separate or different treatment on the basis of 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 characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law.

3. Kadlec will post this Nondiscrimination Policy on its website, and provide other notices to patients regarding this Nondiscrimination Policy, as well as Kadlec’s commitment to providing access to and the provision of services in a welcoming, nondiscriminatory manner.

4. At the time patients are notified of their patient rights, Kadlec Staff will also inform each patient, or the patient’s support person when appropriate, of the patient’s visitation rights, including any clinical restriction on those rights, and the patient’s right, subject to the patient’s consent, to receive visitors whom the patient designates, free of discrimination based upon 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 characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. Such visitors include a spouse, state registered domestic partner (including same-sex state registered domestic partner), another family member, or friend. Kadlec Staff will also notify patients of their right to withdraw or deny such consent at any time. Kadlec Staff will afford such visitors equal visitation privileges consistent with the patient’s preferences.

5. Kadlec Staff receiving a patient or visitor discrimination complaint should advise the complaining individual that he or she may report the problem to Compliance Officer [insert job title and contact information] at ext. 2884 and file a complaint without fear of retaliation. Staffs who receive such complaints should also promptly notify Kadlec’s [Corporate Compliance Officer] of the complaint.

PATIENT RIGHTS

Access to Care and Treatment - The patient has the right to have a family member or representative of their choice and their own physician notified promptly of their admission to the hospital. If are unable to pay for hospital care, the medical center will provide the patient a notice of non-coverage and provide care for them in accordance with our charity care policy and other financial resources. The organization invites patients and/or families to request additional assistance when they have a concern about the patient’s condition. The Rapid Assessment Team can be access for both adult and pediatric patients by notifying your nurse or calling the Patient Care Coordinator by dialing 0.

Patients have a right:
1. to be treated and cared for with dignity and respect;
2. to complain about their care and treatment without fear of retribution or denial of care;
3. to be involved in all aspects of their care including:
   a. Refusing care and treatment
   b. Resolving problems with care decisions;
   c. Be informed of unanticipated outcomes;
   d. Be informed and agree to their care;
   e. Family input in care decision;
   f. Have advance directives and for the hospital to respect and follow those directives;
   g. Request no resuscitation or life-sustaining treatment;
   h. End of life care;
4. to donate organs and other tissues including:

**Pain Management** – Patients have the right to receive appropriate pain management.

**Healthcare Information and Consent** – Patients and/or legal representative have the right to receive complete information about their health status, diagnosis, treatment, and any known prognosis in terms they can easily understand. They also have the right to see their medical records within the limits of the law.

Patients have the right, to the greatest extent possible, to participate in decisions concerning their medical care, including any ethical issues that may arise. This included the right to refuse to consent to the treatment. Patients have the right to be informed of the significant risks and benefits associated with the planned treatment, to be informed of the risks and benefits of any other possible methods of treatment, and to be informed of any consequences if they refuse treatment.

**Advance Directives** - Patients have the right to prepare advance directives, and a durable power of attorney for healthcare, and to expect that those directives will be followed to extent permitted by law.

**Communication** Patients have the right to interpreter services

**Continuity of Care and Caregiver Identity** - Patients have the right to reasonable continuity of care and to know in advance the time and locations of appointments. Patients have the right to know the identities and responsibilities of all individuals caring for them and what services they are providing.

**Safety, Respect, and Dignity** – Patients have the right to a safe environment, including:

- The right to consideration and respect for personal dignity, for spiritual and cultural beliefs and practices.
- The right to be free from all forms of mental, physical, sexual, or verbal abuse, neglect, harassment or exploitation. The right to be free from physical and chemical (drug) restraints.
- The right to protective and advocacy services (including but not limited to guardianship, conservatorship, adult protective or child protective services)

**Privacy and Confidentiality** - Patients have the right, within the law, to know that their personal privacy, including any written information about them, is protected. Those rights include:

- The right to be interviewed and examined in surroundings designed to ensure privacy from other patients, visitors, or hospital employees.
- The right to expect that any examinations, case discussions, and consultations involving their care will be conducted only with those who need to be involved.
- The right to have their medical record read only by individuals directly involved in their treatment, or in the monitoring of its quality, or by your insurance company.
- The right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to their care, including the source of payment for treatment, are treated as confidential.
- The right to request an amendment to their medical record.
- The right to request an accounting of disclosures of their health information.
- The right to request a transfer to another room if another patient or a visitor is unreasonably disturbing (transfer to another room may depend on room availability).

**Pastoral Care** – Patients have the right to receive pastoral care services that will respect and encourage personal, spiritual, and religious needs, values, and resources.
Complaints/Grievance – The patient has a right to a timely complaint resolution

Transfer – Patients will not be transferred to another facility or organization for care until:
- They or their legal representative have received a complete explanation of the need for the transfer and any possible alternatives,
- They or their legal representative have agreed to the transfer, and
- the physician and the facility or organization to which they will be transferred have agreed to accept them

Discharge Planning – Patients have the right to discharge planning and assistance to help get the services needed at time of discharge.
Research – Patients have the right to refuse to participate in any research project without compromising their care.
Outcome Disclosures – Patients have the right to be informed of any outcomes of care when they differ significantly from the anticipated outcomes.

Hospital Charges – Patients or their legal representative have the right to examine all charges associated with their treatment and receive an explanation of them, regardless of the method of payment.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Provision of Information - Patients are responsible for working with doctors and the medical center staff by providing, any personal and medical history information that might be needed. They are also responsible for reporting any changes in their condition to their doctor or nurse.

Instructions and Treatment Plan - Patients are responsible for participating with their doctor in planning their treatment and recovery. They are responsible for understanding how to continue their care after discharge.

Refusal of Treatment – Patients are responsible for the results if they refuse the treatment the doctor has prescribed or if they choose not to follow the doctor's instructions, including leaving the hospital against medical advice. Parents are responsible for the results if they refuse treatment the doctor has ordered for their child. This includes leaving the hospital against the advice of your attending physician. However, if a child, any person under the age of eighteen (18) (RCW 26.44.020[6]), is admitted to this medical center for treatment and the parents and the medical staff reach a difference of opinion regarding the treatment plan, all efforts will be made to reach an agreement regarding the child’s treatment. The parents or legal guardian do not have the option of removing the child from this facility against medical advice (AMA). If this is the posture of the parents, as mandated, the medical center will inform Child Protective Services (CPS). The child will remain at this facility under “Administrative Hold” (RCW 18.130; RCW 74.34.020[8]) until CPS makes a determination for safety with the medical direction of the attending physician.

Respect and Consideration - Patients are responsible for assisting the staff in providing a quiet, courteous atmosphere.

ADVOCACY PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Patient Advocacy Program - The Patient Advocacy Program is designed to give patients an avenue to discuss any concerns they might have regarding care.
**KADLEC REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
**HOUSE-WIDE**  
**POLICY AND PROCEDURES**  
**Section: Administration**

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**POLICY:**  
It is the policy of Kadhlec Regional Medical Center (the “Medical Center”) to serve as a regional referral center and to provide medically necessary services which may not otherwise be readily available in the region.

**PURPOSE:**  
The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for making such services appropriately available and to facilitate communication with and/or reports to the patient’s physician.

**PROCEDURE:**

A. **Scheduled Services**
   Requests for Medical Center services which are furnished on a pre-scheduled basis should be directed to OR Scheduling or Central Scheduling. The department will request any necessary medical information, diagnosis, written order, or documentation of medical necessity, if required for such services. Whenever possible, outpatient registration will be completed prior to the date of service.

B. **Walk-In Request for Services**
   For walk-in patients or those who are sent to the Medical Center by another provider and arrive without an appointment, the following procedure will apply:
   1. Patient Access will determine the type of service the patient is seeking (e.g. review written order or try to contact patient’s physician). If the patient requests emergency services, accompany the patient to the emergency department and follow the Medical Center EMTALA policy.
   2. If the patient is not seeking emergency services, determine when the patient can receive the requested services and direct appropriately.
   3. See the attached Diagram for Admitting/Registering Patients for a decision tree.

C. **Emergency Services**
   1. Requests for emergency care or emergency medical screening should be handled in accordance with the Medical Center’s EMTALA policy.

D. **Patient Whose Physician’s Lack Privileges at the Medical Center**
   If the patient’s physician is not on staff at the Medical Center, the following process will apply:
   1. Tests requiring privileges the patient’s physician will be listed as the primary care physician referring the patient to the Medical Center.
   2. Tests that do not require privileges will be registered and checked in (i.e. lab, X-ray).
   3. Each department will determine the appropriate Medical Center physician for such questions.
4. Reports or results of such testing or services will be provided to the patient's physician, in accordance with Medical Center policy.

E. Limitation of Liability
The purposes of this policy are solely to facilitate medically appropriate access to specialty care and communication with referring providers. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as extending the responsibility or liability of Medical Directors or other Medical Center physicians for the medical care and/or medical management of patients, solely by virtue of the registration department identifying a physician on staff as the Medical Center contact physician.

F. Questions
Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Chief Operating Officer.
Diagram For Admitting/Registering Patients

Patient arrives for inpatient or outpatient care

Does physician have privileges at KMC?

- Yes
  - Name of KMC MD who will do procedure/admit
  - Patient admitted and care provided

- No
  - Is the order for Lab or Imaging?
    - Yes
      - Is it a referral to a KMC physician?
        - Yes
          - Call physician who wrote the order
        - No
          - What is your intent? Who will do the procedure?
            - Yes
              - Is the physician wanting to refer to physician on staff?
                - Yes
                  - Physician needs to determine who will provide care
                - No
                  - No
            - No
              - No

- No
  - Name of KMC Physician who will do procedure