**PPNO List Serv Query Summary Template**

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Contact for further information:

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Date of Summary:

What are your practices / policies for patient use of personal cell phones on inpatient mental health units?

Abbreviated Question (as it will appear on search results page)

Policy/Procedure  Practice  Program Info  Committee Structure info  Role  Students

Model/Structure  Care Delivery  Collaboration  Regulation/Legislation  Pt. Safety

Quality/Outcome/Indicator  PP Culture/Leadership  Other:

Keyword(s)

Check 1 or 2

Required

for website

archiving

Responses: Please cut and paste responses from emails into the table, save and send summary table to PPNO List Serv. Allow 3 weeks for responses to filter in before sending final version.

| Responder Info | Question | Attachment(s)\* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Natalie Krempel RN  Nurse Clinician  Acute Inpatient Psychiatry  Health Sciences North | Horizon Santé-Nord  Ramsey Lake Health Centre & Sudbury Mental Health & Addictions Centre – Kirkwood Site  Office Location: 41 Ramsey Lake Road, North Tower, Level 6, Room 6673B  Sudbury, Ontario P3E 5J1 Tel: 705.523.7100 ext. 8317  Pager: \*88-1045  [www.hsnsudbury.ca](http://www.hsnsudbury.ca/) | At Health Sciences North in Sudbury, all cellphones including visitor cellphones are prohibited on the Acute Inpatient Unit. |  |
| **Feven Gebrehet, RN, BScN**  Nurse Educator, Mental Health  596 Davis Drive, Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 2P9 **T:** (905) 895-4521 ext. 5020  **P:** 1855  **Email:** [fgebrehet@southlakeregional.org](mailto:fgebrehet@southlakeregional.org) | At Southlake Regional Health Centre, we don’t allow cellphone use on our inpatient MH units. On rare occasions/special circumstances we do allow supervised use after obtaining a written order from the physician that indicates both allotted time and reason for use. We do however allow patients to sign-out their cellphones when they are leaving the unit for a day pass, and must be retrieved upon return to the unit. |  |
| Susan Murphy RN BScN CPMHN( C )  Practice Specialist  Mental Health Program  Behavioral Supports Transition Unit  Quinte Health Care  265 Dundas St E.  Belleville, ON  Office: 613 969 7400 ext 2111  Email: [smurphy@qhc.on.ca](mailto:smurphy@qhc.on.ca) | I have attached our policy on cellphone use which was recently updated. It provides guidance on what to do for inappropriate use of cellphones in hospital.  We have always banned the use of cellphones on the unit, unless the patient goes out on pass. We would then sign it out and the patient would be expected to return it back on arrival to the unit. |  |
| **Bobby Pichl**  | RN, BScN  Nurse Clinician Mental Health  **Grey Bruce Health Services**  T 519.376.2121 ext. 2426  [www.gbhs.on.ca](http://www.gbhs.on.ca/) | Regarding your inquiry about a cellphone policy for mental health in-patients; we don’t have a policy on cell phone use but we speak of our expectations in our client handout when they arrive on the unit. More specifically, cell phones are only to be used in patients’ bedrooms. |  |
| D. Marika Bishop  Manager, Policy Development and Implementation  Professional Practice Office | Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  T: 416.535.8501 ext. 30597 | E: [marika.bishop@camh.ca](mailto:marika.bishop@camh.ca)  cid:image001.png@01D3E3D3.C62144B0 | I hope all is well.  Attached please find our policy that speaks to the use of personal electronic devices within our organization.  While the intent of the policy is to govern the behaviour of *any* person on CAMH property, including clients/patients and visitors, its main purpose is to outline CAMH personnel’s role in supporting compliance and adherence/ |  |
| signature  *RN, HBScN, MScN, DNP(c)*  Director, Professional Practice  Office: 519.749.4300 ext. 2346 | Cell: 226.752.7149  835 King Street, W. Kitchener, ON N2G 1G3  [victoria.crowder-bansen@grhosp.on.ca](mailto:victoria.crowder-bansen@grhosp.on.ca) | [http://www.grhosp.on.ca](http://www.grhosp.on.ca/)  Pronouns: she/her/hers  [Related image](https://ca.linkedin.com/company/grand-river-hospital)[Image result for twitter symbol](https://twitter.com/GRHospitalKW)  [Image result for facebook symbol](https://www.facebook.com/gr.hospital/) | We do not allow the use of cell phones on any of our Mental Health and Addictions inpatient units or in our Extended Assessment Unit (EAU).  Patients that have off unit privileges are able to get their cell phone from the phone storage in the team station and take it on their break, then return it when they return.  During COVID we have made an exception since patients are not allowed to leave the unit and do not have breaks. Our adult patients on the inpatient unit are allowed to use their phones during what would have been a break time on the unit. Staff ensure that the use is appropriate and no photos or video are being taken.  The clinical team determines who is appropriate to use this phone and who is not.  Child & Adolescent and EAU are not allowed to use cell phones at any time. |  |
| cid:image001.png@01D5DD93.06637510 | We allow patients to have their phone and chargers on the unit, respecting/adhering to the privacy polies. |  |
| ***Martina Nuttall***  ***RN BScN CPMHN(c)***  ***Clinical Nurse Specialist***  ***Mental Health Programs***  **Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre**  Phone: (807)684-6962  Pager: (807)626-8924 | Our policies vary from unit to unit. Our forensics unit does not allow cell phone use on the unit. They can use their cell phone off the unit if they have privileges to do so. Our Child and Adolescent unit also does not allow cell phone use on the unit. Our Adult Mental Health unit does not allow cell phone use in the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit but patients on the general mental health floor can use personal cell phones with the agreement that no photos or videos will be taken on the unit. If the patient is unable to comply with unit rules the privileges will be revoked. We have a portable locking  charging station on the unit (like the ones at the airport) as no cords are allowed on the unit. |  |