



Arizona State Hospital Human Rights Committee Meeting

<b>Thursday May 20, 2015</b> <b>1-3pm</b> <b>ASH Administration Building</b>	Arizona State Hospital 2500 E. Van Buren St. Phoenix, AZ 85008	Meeting called to order 1:15pm.
<b>Members Present:</b> Sharon Ashcroft, Mary Lou Brncik via phone Jim Gilcoatt,		
<b>Other Attendees:</b> Via phone- Laurie Goldstein, Sue Smith		
<b>Members Absent:</b> Kim Scherek, John Mancini, Paula Riccio		
<b>Next Meeting:</b> June 4, 2015		
<b>Approved:</b>  _____ <b>Sharon Ashcroft, Chairman</b>		



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Item	Discussion	Follow-Up/Action	Person(s) Responsible for Follow Up	Target Completion Date	Complete Yes/No
Review of Minutes	N/A				
Conflict of Interest	None disclosed				
Response by DBHS on letter to Cory Nelson DBHS Docket BO72214S0021 Will refer to as (B07)	HRC received response to letter from Jim regarding concerns of Jan 2, 2014 incident. Mary Lou read out loud to group the entire letter. Discussion of patient's rights being violated as per original report, client was awakened from sleep and forcefully medicated. Reasons given were that patient was aggressive and out of control. Committee concerned that not all issues are meaningfully resolved even after DH response.	Continue to keep the B07 incident under review by committee	Jim	ongoing	No
ASH Chair Update 9-4 policy	Sharon shared with us that she had received a request from Senator Barto's office to be notified of the dates the committee meets. Today Sue Smith from the senator's office is on the phone as a meeting participant.. Sharon explains that Senator Barto has been receiving		N/A	N/A	



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	<p>numerous calls from patients at ASH regarding the 9-4 policy and other issues. Sharon states that the HRC welcomes Senator Barto and Ms. Smith to be actively engaged in working with the committee to assist ASH in continuing to achieve its goal of quality patient care.</p>				
<p>Current patient concerns -  Night time patient bed checks with flashlight –</p>	<p>Sharon has received numerous calls on a new policy which requires staff to enter into all patient rooms in the middle of the night. The purpose as reported to Sharon by patients is to check on patient well-being by using a flash light to observe that patient is breathing by watching the rise and fall of their chest. Committee discusses whether or not this activity, as it is being carried out, is a violation of patient rights. Committee needs more information, i.e. is this policy documented, how is patient privacy protected, is this causing unnecessary sleep</p>	<p>Place night time breathing checks on agenda for June 4 HRC meeting</p>	<p>Sharon</p>	<p>ongoing</p>	<p>No</p>



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	deprivation and anxiety for the patients, what precipitated the development of this new policy, were patients adequately informed before policy was implemented and can patients choose to opt out if written request is submitted?				
Patient Correspondence	Sharon brought in letters which patients have written requesting assistance from the HRC. Sharon wanted to offer the committee members the opportunity to review the letters. Complaints regarding personal cell phone use by staff on the units have been voiced by patients.	Sharon will continue to share patient communication with the committee.  Committee will review letters. Concerns that arise will be placed on a future meeting agenda.	Sharon and committee members	ongoing	No
New business	Discussion of reports by Dave Biscobing of Channel 15. Committee would like to learn more regarding death of patient who reportedly broke her neck while on a 1:1 watch.	Discussion that a review of this death is needed. Place this item on agenda and will ask full committee to confirm they believe a review is warranted. If affirmed,	Sharon	June 4 agenda	No



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	<p>Committee will make an effort to locate and review documents regarding sexual assault and abuse at the hospital as reported by investigative journalist Dave Biscobing.</p> <p>Committee has concerns regarding staffing levels. Jim states that the hospital has confirmed through documentation that some hallways do not have 24/7 supervision.</p> <p>Regarding speaker for statewide meeting, Mary Lou has been in contact with Dr Carter of the Maricopa County HRC about the</p>	<p>Sharon will write up request for medical records in this case and ask for a review by DBHS.</p> <p>Obtain more information on reported assaults</p>			



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	<p>need for a speaker for the keynote. Dr Carter explained that he had been able to get a commitment from Chick Arnold to speak at the training.</p>				
9-4 Policy revisited	<p>Discussion by committee that issue remains front and center in patient complaints. Jim states that he is concerned by what appears to be the hospital's use of coercion. "Patients are not a commodity. Treatment needs to be individualized" Jim added that he is concerned that the hospital policies are not conducive to recovery but are geared more toward herding of patients into groups. Jim stated that it appears policies are revolving too much around meeting Medicare requirements and this is taking away from patient care.</p>	N/A			



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Forensic privileges 50% policy	Mary Lou states that she would like to know if the committee could request legal counsel regarding issues pertaining to the 50% policy	Committee will inquire into resources available to the committee	Not specified	ongoing	No
Public Comment	<p>Laurie commented that although there are times at ASH when staffing levels are low, she believes that ASH functions better than many other hospitals in the valley. Laurie suggested that as the committee examines the cases where bad outcomes i.e. injury or death have occurred and make inquiry to see if there are any ‘common threads’ or ‘preindicators’ in the various cases.</p> <p>Sue Smith of Senator Barto’s office states that the senator has given her permission to take calls and complaints from patients at ASH. Per Sue, she has been receiving many calls and requests for help from patients.</p>	Place this issue for discussion on the agenda for the June 4 HRC meeting.	Sharon	ongoing	No



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Meeting adjourned	2:45pm	Minutes prepared by ML Brncik			