

PROCEDURE FOR: Warrants for Arrest / Search of Psychiatry Inpatients

- POLICY:**
1. The treatment plan for patients with an arrest warrant will not be restricted in any way solely because of the arrest warrant unless the patient is wanted for a felony involving violence or threats of violence against another person.
 2. Unit staff does not confirm or deny a patient's presence to any outside agency, including outside police departments. Due to laws of confidentiality, if police request that staff notify them of a patient's discharge from our facility, staff cannot cooperate with the request unless the police have independent knowledge of the patient's presence on the unit.
 3. Warrants for search and seizure for a particular patient are honored.
 4. The Health Center Police are liaison to all outside law enforcement agencies. Any inquiries made by other police departments or agencies should be referred to the UCHC Police Department.

PROCEDURE:

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>POINTS OF EMPHASIS</u>
1. UCHC police executing a search and seizure warrant will provide the unit nursing manager, ANM or charge nurse with a clear explanation of the reason for the warrant and will work with them to maintain the patient's confidentiality.	1. Sufficient personnel from the UCHC Police Dept will be sent to execute the warrant and to provide assistance to staff.
2. The unit staff will cooperate with the UCHC Police while they are executing a search and seizure warrant.	2. Staff should notify the nursing supervisor about the execution of any search and seizure warrants.

APPROVAL: Nursing Administrative Council

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/85

REVISION DATES: 4/93, 12/97, 4/98, 4/00, 10/00, 11/03, 6/06, 1/09