

Refusal of Treatment

Highlights	Policy Statement
	<p>Our facility shall honor a resident’s request not to receive medical treatment as prescribed by his or her physician, as well as care routines outlined on the resident’s assessment and plan of care.</p>
	<p>Policy Interpretation and Implementation</p>
Refusal of Treatment	1. The resident is not forced to accept any medical treatment and may refuse specific treatment even though it is prescribed by a physician.
Definition of Treatment	2. “Treatment” is defined as care provided for purposes of maintaining/restoring health, improving functional level, or relieving symptoms.
Assessment of Reasons for Refusal	3. If a resident/ resident’s clinical representative refuses treatment, the Unit Manager, Charge Nurse, Director of Nursing Services, or designee will interview the resident to determine what and why the resident is non-adherent to the plan of care in order to try to address the resident’s concerns and explain the consequences.
Alternative Treatments	4. The Care Plan Team will assess the resident’s needs and offer the resident alternative treatments, if available and pertinent, while continuing to provide other services outlined in the care plan.
Significant Change Reassessment	5. If the resident’s refusal brings about a significant change, a reassessment will be made and such information will be incorporated into the resident’s care plan.
Documentation of Refusal	6. Should the resident non-adherent to the plan of care, information relating to the refusal must be entered into the resident’s medical record. The Attending Physician must be notified of such refusal consistent with facility’s policy and accepted standard of practice.