

Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance	
Patient Care	Original Issue Date: March 12, 2010
Accessibility - Use of Assistive Devices By Persons with Disabilities	Review/Effective Date: March 26, 2010
Approved By: Chief Executive Director	Next Review Date: October 05, 2012

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Policy Statement:

Through accessibility planning and with the guidance of the Accessibility Committee, the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) will strategically identify, remove and prevent as many barriers as possible for those persons with disabilities. The HPHA is committed to the continual improvement of access for all those with disabilities, and will welcome all persons to our hospitals by providing access to goods and services that respect the independence, dignity, integration and equal opportunity of persons with disabilities.

Objective:

To enable persons with physical disabilities to increase their independence and access our goods and services through the use of assistive devices responsive to an individual's needs in a manner that protects their dignity and respect.

Definitions:

Assistive devices are used by persons with disabilities to assist them in their daily activities. They are usually devices that persons bring with them. They include auxiliary aids such as communication aids, cognition aids, personal mobility aids, or medical aids. They may include, but are not limited to;

- Manual and motorized wheelchairs
- Canes, crutches or walkers
- White canes
- Hearing aids
- Magnifiers
- Portable Oxygen tanks
- Electronic communication aids
- Prosthetic devices

Procedure:

HPHA provides several assistive measures at each of our four sites to enable persons with disabilities to benefit from a level of service common with all others who may require our goods and services. To ensure persons with disabilities are allowed to use their assistive devices, employees of the HPHA will be trained and familiar with various assistive devices that may be used by persons accessing our goods and services and may be able to offer help with assistive devices. HPHA employees will ask before assuming help is needed.

The following assistive devices which may be available for use at each of our four sites include but not limited to:

- Wheelchairs
- Volunteers who may offer assistance
- Automatic door operators
- Elevators
- Handicapped parking
- Service counters of various heights
- Alternative format documents
- Some Braille and tactile signage
- Audible and visual Fire Alarm signals
- Pen/pencil and paper at Patient Registration areas

 AW Signature

Approved by: