MANAGEMENT OF SMOKING INCIDENTS ON IN-PATIENT UNIT

*Developed by the CAMH Schizophrenia Program*

If a client is found smoking on the unit to ensure consistency in practice, accountability, staff and client safety, and fire prevention this mandatory process is to be followed each time.

- **Staff to inform the client of the no-smoking policy and the smoking awareness group run on their unit.** Staff will apprehend the cigarette, and ask the client to surrender additional cigarettes and lighter or matches. If client refuses, staff to inform the unit manager and MRP. Staff to call security if needed to assist in apprehending the cigarette/lighter.

- **Found cigarettes and lighters are to be confiscated, put in a plastic bag, labeled and documented on the Client Personal Belongings Inventory Form. Items to be returned to the client upon discharge.**

- **Staff to proceed with searching the client and their belongings with the assistance of security or another staff member who can serve as a witness. Rational for the search must be included in TREAT documentation.**

- **Nursing staff to initiate Q15 observation for one hour post incident, and discontinue thereafter, unless there is a clinical judgment to continue. Nursing staff or responsible clinician to complete SCORE, TREAT documentation, and update EIPCC to reflect current interventions, coping strategies, and guidelines.**

- **Physician/NP, pharmacy, allied and nursing staff to offer NRT options to client as a means to alleviate withdrawal symptoms.**

- **For 24 Hours the client is to be searched every time they re-enter the unit following the use of a pass. This search is to be conducted by the most responsible nurse, or allied staff with security or another staff member. Staff to document in TREAT.**

- **Client’s room is to be searched for 24 Hours post incident. During this 24 hours, client is to have their room searched once per shift with the assistance of security or another staff member. Client to be present during room the search. Staff to document in TREAT.**

- **For further advice or consultation, contact the CAMH Tobacco Consult Team.**

**Reference(s):** Inpatient/Client Personal Belongings and Clothing. Policy # PC 1.9.2

Personal Belongings and Clothing Inventory F#0240-2003 1101.

**Searching Includes:** Asking the client to empty their pockets (jacket, pants, shirt) and checking the clothing item for cigarettes/matches/lighters (including socks and shoes). Includes checking bags and other belongings brought on to the unit.

**Smoking Lockers:** The designated location for cigarettes and lighters to be placed if not in use. Clients can obtain access to a locker by going to the cash office to make the request and pay a deposit. The key will then be authorized by the responsible unit.