|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MADISON COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL** | | |
|  | |  |
| **SUBJECT:**  Emergency Medical Care | **POLICY #**: RM-022 | |
| **DEPARTMENT**:  Business Office/Registration/Emergency Room Department | **PAGE**: 1 of 1 | |
| **REFERENCE**:  [Financial Assistance Policy and Emergency Medical Care Policy – Section 501(r)(4) | Internal Revenue Service (irs.gov)](https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/financial-assistance-policy-and-emergency-medical-care-policy-section-501r4)  Subchapter G of Chapter IV of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations  Emergency medical conditions are defined in the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA), Section 1867 of the Social Security Act. | **APPROVED BY**:  Tammy Stevens, CEO, Risk Manager, Patient Safety Officer | |
|  |  | |
|  | **DATE: 05/05/2022** | |
|  | **REVISED DATE**: | |

**PURPOSE**:

To ensure each patient seeking emergency medical services is provided an opportunity to be seen by the emergency room physician/nurse practitioner/physician assistant and provided the same standard of care based on the patient’s condition without discrimination.

**POLICY**:

Madison County Memorial Hospital will provide emergency care in accordance with Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) regulations. All patients shall be encouraged to be seen by the physician/nurse practitioner/physician assistant and complete their emergency room visit.

No employee or contract staff may discuss or answer any financial assistance questions, payment ability for emergency room services, or engage in debt collection activities in the emergency room or in other areas of the hospital ***prior to*** a medical screening by a physician/nurse practitioner/physician assistant.

Employees and contract staff are not to engage in any activities that would delay medical care or cause a patient to leave against medical advice.