

**Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
BIDMC Manual**

Title: NO SMOKING POLICY

Policy #: EOC- 16

Purpose:

To protect patients, visitors, and employees from fire safety and health hazards of smoking.

To give support to the BIDMC mission of improving health and recognize that smoking, the appearance of smoking by using electronic devices and the use of any other ignited products poses immediate life safety risks and significant present and future risk to the health of the community.

To provide information and support to patients, visitors and staff in order to comply with this policy and to support opportunities for cessation.

Scope: This policy applies to all BIDMC employees, patients, visitors and all others that are on BIDMC owned property, both outside and inside all buildings. For all leased locations, refer to Procedure section #10.

Definitions

Smoking – using any ignited/burning device including cigarette, cigar, pipe, marijuana or other device that appears to be burning (e.g. electronic cigarette).

Staff – for the purpose of this policy, all BIDMC employees while in BIDMC facilities or on grounds of those facilities and to include other practitioners, contractors, subcontractors, temporary employees, students and all research staff.

Policy Statements:

1. Using any product designed to be ignited, combusted and inhaled (e.g. a lighted cigar, cigarette, marijuana, pipe or other smoking type device) is strictly prohibited in BIDMC buildings and on BIDMC grounds, parking lots, garages, streets and any other property owned by BIDMC. This includes all sidewalk areas by entrances and exits. (See Attachment A: BIDMC East & West Campus Property Lines).
2. Electronic cigarette/cigar/pipe-like (e.g. “vaping”) devices of any type are also prohibited from use. Many of these devices closely resemble ignited devices by having an electronic glowing tip and emitting a smoke-like vapor. These characteristics, along with the visual image of a person actively smoking, have

the potential to cause confusion with actual use of cigarettes/cigars/pipes/other and therefore; use of these devices is prohibited.

3. Patients in need of nicotine replacement must be medically screened and have approved interventions ordered.
4. There is zero tolerance for use of such ignited or electronic “vaping” devices inside BIDMC facilities and outside on BIDMC property. Violator(s) will be immediately required to extinguish/stop using any ignited or electronic device. Further action will depend on the location and the individual(s) involved.
5. If a staff member who has been informed of these no smoking policy standards does not comply, he/she shall be subject to disciplinary action (refer to [PM-04 Corrective Action Policy](#)).
6. BIDMC discourages the use of ignitable products and electronic “vaping” devices within the visual periphery of all BIDMC buildings, even if beyond hospital property.
7. Signage to this effect shall be posted and maintained on BIDMC property.
8. It is the responsibility of all BIDMC staff to enforce the no smoking policy; every employee should courteously inform any person(s) violating the policy of the smoking restrictions at BIDMC.

Procedure(s) for Implementation

All patients who are admitted to the hospital will be informed of BIDMC’s no smoking policy. Primary responsibility for assessment of patient care needs rests with the members of the clinical team providing treatment. Refer to [CP-64 Use and Handling of Medical and Non-Medical Marijuana](#)

1. Patients who require hospitalization need a level of monitoring that can only be provided in the acute care setting by the health care team. In order to optimize patient safety, patients may not leave the inpatient unit during their hospitalization except when traveling for diagnostic tests/treatments. Therefore, patients should not leave the unit to use an ignitable product and if they do, they are leaving against medical advice. Staff will document such departures and patients must go beyond BIDMC property to smoke. Refer to [CP-29 Inpatients Leaving the Unit](#).
2. For staff, BIDMC is committed to providing healthy lifestyle role modeling for its community. All staff that uses tobacco products are encouraged to utilize smoking cessation programs through insurance companies and/or within the community.

3. Use of tobacco products by staff may occur during normally scheduled breaks. Staff that is having difficulty complying with the BIDMC tobacco/electronic device free campus should be reminded of this policy by their respective managers and given information regarding smoking cessation programs/resources offered.
4. Smoking “outposts” and other such containers located at building entrances are **ONLY** intended for the immediate and safe disposal of smoking materials.
5. It is the expectation that all employees will participate in monitoring and enforcing the no smoking policy. Staff is expected to, and has the authority to, request that a smoker/user of an electronic smoking device immediately extinguish/stop using any smoking materials. Smokers may relocate to non-BIDMC property. (Note: City of Boston ordinances prohibit smoking in city parks, including Joslin Park.) Public Safety is to be contacted if such efforts are not successful.
6. The Department of Public Safety will make all reasonable efforts to enforce this no smoking policy and has full authority to intervene with staff, patients and visitors. If smoking on BIDMC property, Public Safety will require smokers to leave the premises.
7. Smoking is not permitted by staff at any offsite buildings owned by BIDMC. For sites/buildings co-owned or leased by BIDMC, there may be limited exceptions to this policy. In the buildings listed below the following general rules apply. More specific information and signage are provided at each site.
 - a. CLS Building, 3 Blackfan Circle (Leased): No smoking permitted anywhere on property.
 - b. Research North, 99 Brookline Avenue (Owned): No smoking permitted anywhere on property & within 30 feet of entrances.
 - c. Renaissance Building, 1135 Tremont Street (Leased): Smoking permitted only in landlord designated outside areas.
 - d. 109 Brookline and 20 Overland Street (Leased): No smoking permitted anywhere on property & within 30 feet of entrances.
 - e. Bowdoin Street Health Center (Owned): No smoking permitted anywhere on property or in Hamilton Street parking lots.
 - f. Chelsea Site (Owned): No smoking permitted anywhere on property.

- g. Lexington Site (Co-Owned): No smoking permitted anywhere on property.
- h. Beth Israel Deaconess HealthCare - Chestnut Hill (Leased): Smoking permitted only in landlord designated outside areas.
- i. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Cancer Center – Needham (Leased): No smoking permitted in Cancer Center or anywhere on Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital–Needham property.
- j. Any other leased or owned buildings: No smoking permitted anywhere on property unless other designation posted.

Attachment A: BIDMC East and West Campus Property Lines

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Approved By:

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Eliminated: (Date)

References:

[PM-04 Corrective Action Policy](#)
[CP-29 Inpatients Leaving the Unit](#)
[CP-64 Use and Handling of Medical and Non-Medical Marijuana](#)

EOC-16 Attachment A: BIDMC East & West Campus Property Lines

