

## **Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services Definitions**

**Adverse Drug Reactions** - An unintended response to a prescribed medication which involves one or more body systems and requires immediate medical intervention.

**Airway Obstruction/Choking** - A complete or partial blocking of the respiratory passage where the cause can be either mechanical (obstruction by foreign body or food), physiologic (i.e. laryngospasm or broncho spasm), or crushing injury or edema requiring physical intervention.

**Alcohol Use - Suspected** - The suspected ingestion of any alcohol product as evidenced by slurred speech, staggering gait, altered sensorium, odor of alcohol, etc., or self-report of alcohol use.

**Alleged Sexual Assault** - A complaint or observation of nonconsensual sexual activity.

**Alleged Patient Abuse** - Any allegation reported which falls into one of the following categories:

1. Physical
2. Non-physical
3. Neglect
4. Exploitation
5. Violation of regulation or procedure
6. Offenses related to patient/individual abuse

**Assault, Patient/Staff** - An aggressive physical act by a patient toward a staff member which may or may not result in an injury.

**Assault, Patient/Patient** - An aggressive physical act by a patient toward another patient which may or may not result in injury.

### **Absent Without Leave (AWOL) –**

Any patient who is observed to be off hospital grounds without authorization; or  
Any patient who is determined to have been off grounds without authorization; or  
Any patient who does not return to his/her living unit from grounds privileges within 30 minutes of the time specified, or fails to report for a scheduled on or off grounds activity within 30 minutes of the time specified; or  
Any patient who fails to return from an authorized leave of absence on the stated date and time (within 30 minutes) and the hospital is unable to establish rationale for failure to return; or  
Any patient who is discovered/believed to be missing from a locked living unit or from an escorted on-or-off grounds activity.

**Chief Executive Officer** - The Superintendent of a State Mental Hospital or Restoration Center Administrator.

**Community Incident** - Any activity by a patient while in the community which has the potential for or results in a negative outcome.

**Contraband Possession** - The possession of restricted articles on hospital grounds to include alcohol, firearms, potential lethal weapons and any article defined by hospital policy.

**Fall**- Involuntary descent to a lower position which may or may not result in injury.

**Family Concern** - Any family or significant other's complaint or inquiry about the care and treatment of the patient. - -

**Fire Setting** - Any accidental or willful action which results in the ignition of a fire.

**Illicit Drug Use/Possession** - Possession and/or use of illegal substances.

**Incident** - An unexpected event which results in injury or potential injury to a patient.

**Medical Emergency** - A sudden negative change in the clinical status that requires immediate medical intervention.

**Medication Error** - A medication is any non-nutritional substance prescribed by a physician for the purpose of oral, sublingual, subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular, nasal, intravenous, optic, ophthalmic or topical administration, and suppository introduction. Medication errors include administration, transcription, and omission errors that directly impact the patient/resident or have the potential for impact. An error is defined as each time the patient/resident is placed at risk.

Medication Errors include Type I - patient is **not** involved  
Type II - patient involved

**Property Damage** - Any accidental or willful damage to state or personal property.

**Reportable Death** - All patient deaths.

**Self-Injurious Behavior** - Self directed behavior or purposeful acts that result in an injury and may include but are not limited to the ingestion of inedible objects, materials, or supplies.

**Sexual Behavior** - Sexual activity considered inappropriate because of circumstance, situation, or environment, or which infringes on the freedom or rights of others.

**Smoking Violations** - Any violation of the hospital smoking policy or individual treatment plan.

**Suicide Attempt** - An intentional act to terminate one's life.

**Suicide Threat Or Plan** - Verbal and/or written expression of intent to terminate one's life, or other evidence of a plan to do so.

**Theft** - Any alleged or suspected incident resulting in missing property or money.

**Treatment error** - any error involving diet, vital signs, skin care, dressing, soaks, preparation for diagnostic testing, body positioning and therapeutic measures for safety or physical well being.

**Unknown** - the existence of a physical injury whereby the etiology cannot be determined at the time of discovery.

**Other** - any incident which does not fall into any other defined category.