

BUCKTAIL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY AND PROCEDURE	
Issuing Department: Business Office	Category: Patient Accounting Subject: Emergency Medical Care
Staff Affected: All	Effective Date: 03/28/2019 Revised Date(s):

POLICY:

Bucktail Medical Center will provide emergency medical screenings and appropriate follow-up medical care for emergency medical condition(s), regardless of the patient's ability to pay, health care insurance coverage or eligibility under Bucktail Medical Center's Financial Assistance Policy. This policy is administered in accordance with the Affordable Care Act requirements included in section 501(r) of the Internal Revenue Code.

DEFINITIONS:

Emergency Medical Condition (as defined under 42 U.S.C. 1395dd) –

- (1) The term “emergency medical condition” means—
 - (A) a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in—
 - (i) placing the health of the individual (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy,
 - (ii) serious impairment to bodily functions, or
 - (iii) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
 - (B) with respect to a pregnant woman who is having contractions—
 - (i) that there is inadequate time to effect a safe transfer to another hospital before delivery, or
 - (ii) that transfer may pose a threat to the health or safety of the woman or the unborn child.

PROCEDURE:

1. Patient presenting to the Emergency Department will be provided a medical screening exam performed by appropriate medical personnel. Patient will be screened regardless of their ability to pay, health care insurance coverage or eligibility under Bucktail Medical Center's Financial Assistance Policy (FAP) or Billing and Collection Policy.
2. Hospital personnel are prohibited from discouraging patients to seek medical care based on their ability to pay, health care insurance coverage or eligibility under Bucktail Medical Center's Financial Assistance Policy. No co-pays, deductibles or payments may be requested prior to a medical screening exam.
3. Hospital registration or business office personnel may, upon notification from Emergency Department personnel, request payment (co-pays, deductibles, payments) from a patient after the patient has received a medical screening examination and their condition is deemed as a non-emergency medical condition. Patient will be provided the Financial Assistance Policy (FAP) and a Financial Assistance Application (FAA) at the same time request for payment is made.