SCOPE: Students receiving services at the Student Center for Health and Counseling

PURPOSE: To outline clinic processes in the event of refusal of treatment

DEFINITIONS:
Informed Consent- consent of a patient or other recipient of services based on the principles of autonomy and privacy. The following criteria define informed consent: (1) competence to understand and to decide, (2) voluntary decision making, (3) disclosure of material information, (4) recommendation of a plan, (5) comprehension of terms (3) and (4), (6) decision in favor of a plan, and (7) authorization of the plan. A person gives informed consent only if all of these criteria are met. If all of the criteria are met except that the person rejects the plan, that person makes an informed refusal.

informed refusal - refusal of treatment after one has been informed about it in an effort to gain informed consent

refusal of treatment - a declining of treatment

PROCEDURE:

1. Clients have a right to be informed of their diagnosis and recommended treatment  Clients also have a right to refuse treatment.

2. In the event that a client refuses treatment in any form, it is the responsibility of the clinician in charge of the care to inform the client of alternatives, if any. A thorough explanation of the possible outcomes will be given. If the client continues to refuse treatment and the clinician feels treatment is critical to the well-being of the individual, he/she will be asked to sign a Refusal of Treatment form (attachment A).

   a. In the event that the client refuses to sign the form, the electronic medical or counseling record shall outline in detail the fact that treatment has been refused, that alternatives were explored and that possible sub optimal outcomes were described with sufficient clarity and detail to enable the client to exercise informed judgment. The clinician, if at all possible, shall have another staff member present during this process.

   b. It is the responsibility of the clinician involved to make continued efforts where possible to obtain future compliance with the recommended treatment plan/regimen.

Attachments: 6.10A Refusal of Treatment Form