

**ADVENTIST MIDWEST HEALTH REGIONAL POLICY PROFILE**

<b>Category</b>		<b>Index Number (RG)</b>	
<b>Title</b>			
<b>Sabbath Observance Policy</b>			
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Review Date/s</b>	<b>Revision Date/s</b>	<b>Page 1 of 2</b>
<b>Applicable Regional Entities: <u>Chicago-area Hospitals</u></b>		<b>Adventist <u>Bolingbrook Medical Center</u></b>	
<b>Chippewa Valley Hospital</b>		<b>Other: _____</b>	
<b>Cross Reference</b>			

**I. Purpose:** Adventist Midwest Health recognizes and celebrates the Seventh Day (Saturday) as the Sabbath. The Sabbath is observed from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday. This policy was developed to delineate general expectations for Sabbath observance at the various Adventist Midwest Health organizations.

**II. Policy**

- A. During the Sabbath hours the following services shall continue to be provided:
  - 1. Promotion of comfort and healing by administering all forms of patient care
  - 2. Maintenance of a functioning, orderly, clean and safe environment for patients, personnel and visitors
  - 3. Diagnostic testing and prescribed therapies
  - 4. Necessary admissions of patients and emergency surgeries
  - 5. Any services and activities essential to patient care
  
- B. Directors and department managers should support this policy by creating a respectful atmosphere and by encouraging reduction of noise and commotion. Management should evaluate their responsibilities and departmental activities to determine what services could be performed at times other than during the Sabbath hours.
  
- C. Employees are expected to work on Saturdays when scheduled. Reasonable accommodation on this and other religious issues should be provided to each employee.
  
- D. Certain activities should be reduced or restricted during Sabbath hours including:
  - 1. Elective surgery and elective admissions of patients
  - 2. Opening the gift shop for business
  - 3. Scheduled classroom instruction (e.g. general orientation, etc.)
  - 4. Office activities except as needed for necessary admissions/discharge

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5. Routine linen delivery and distribution activities except as needed to support patient care activities
6. Routine housekeeping activities in areas not serving patients or visitors and periodic housekeeping normally scheduled less frequently than daily
7. Routine maintenance requests, work orders, and grounds upkeep
8. Interviews for employment
9. Construction/Remodeling
10. Surveys and mock inspections of the premises

E. Provisions shall be made for spiritual ministry to patients including visits from chaplains, chapel services, literature availability, and [other spiritual support for patients and staff.](#)

**DISTRIBUTION:**

Email distribution to all Adventist Midwest Health Leadership  
Posting on the Adventist Midwest Intranet

**APPROVAL:**

Regional Executive Council (Date): \_\_\_\_\_

Other Required Committee/s:

(Committee) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Committee) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Committee) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date): \_\_\_\_\_