

**HARDIN COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL
HOSPITAL-WIDE POLICY**

**Title: Health Care Professionals Moral
Prerogatives/Limits--Staff Rights
Policy Number: 108
Regulation:**

Effective Date: 9/30/2004

**Med Staff:
Admin:**

I. POLICY

Hardin County General Hospital will make reasonable efforts to accommodate health care professionals' personal moral, religious or cultural values, but, at the same time, will try to keep personal objections of caregivers from disrupting care.

II. DEFINITIONS

Hardin County General Hospital's environment is conducive to ensuring respect for the patient's self-determination and autonomy. Sometimes the patient's or surrogate's treatment choice clashes with caregivers' professional or individual moral values. These include: blood transfusions, sterilization procedures, removal of life support, and do not resuscitate orders.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

All Staff

IV. EQUIPMENT

N/A

V. PROCEDURES

Caregivers must inform Hardin County General Hospital of personal moral, religious or cultural values that may preclude their taking part in certain kinds of care. This must be done in writing in conjunction with the orientation process and must be filed with Personnel, the Department Head and the Administrator.

Hardin County General Hospital shall try to have other personnel available to provide or withhold care as requested if these objections fall within legitimate claim or moral prerogatives.

Hardin County General Hospital will not allow the patient's care to be compromised because of internal conflicts of values.

Health Care professionals have certain obligations to deliver care, which may be articulated in their professional code of ethics.

Claims of moral prerogatives do not legitimately allow health care professionals at Hardin County General Hospital to refuse to provide care based on perceptions of the patient's social worth, lifestyle or culture.

Hardin County General Hospital and its health care providers shall consider the overall welfare of their communitiy as well as enrollees in determining the organization's activities and will strive to meet the needs of all segments of the population.

VI. DOCUMENTATION

N/A