

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY MANUAL**

FLOWER/PLANT POLICY

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PURPOSE

To assure that flowers and plants are maintained in a safe and sanitary manner in the hospital environment and to prevent the growth of infectious organisms that would put patients, visitors and employees at risk of acquiring an infection.

POLICY

Hackettstown Regional Medical Center (HRMC) realizes that flowers and plants are an important part of providing an aesthetically pleasing hospital environment and that they provide an important role in the healing process.

All live plants and flowers will be disease free. Any flower or plant that is wilted, in poor condition or appears to be diseased will be disposed of immediately.

It is the responsibility of each department manager or designee, to maintain plants and flowers located in their department.

Special consideration will be made for patients or employees who may be allergic or sensitive to flowers and/or plants.

Patients are encouraged to take home all flowers and plants that have been sent to them during their hospital stay. Plants and/or flowers may be kept at the nurses' station and maintained by the nursing staff.

Flowers, plants and fresh fruit are not allowed for patients in the ICCU, patients receiving cancer therapy, immuno compromised and neurogenic patients.

Flowers, plants and fresh fruit are prohibited in rooms where major invasive procedures are performed, including the Operating and Minor Procedures rooms and Same Day Surgery.