

Section: Division of Nursing

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**PROCEDURE**

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Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

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**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

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**ED**

(Scope)

**TITLE: ELOPEMENT FROM THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

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PURPOSE: To outline the steps to follow when a patient elopes from the registration area/emergency room.

LEVEL:

SUPPORTIVE DATA:

EQUIPMENT LIST: N/A

DEFINITION: Elopement is defined as the unexpected, unannounced departure of a patient prior to completion of the ER visit.

CONTENT: PROCEDURE STEPS:

1. Document time of triage in the medical record, if applicable.
2. Document time last seen by staff in the nurse's note.

DOCUMENTATION: 

3. Document any patient conversation in the nurse's note
4. Complete an incident report.

REFERENCES: