

Crenshaw Community Hospital Policies and Procedures	Policy Number #ER100.175	Effective Date
	Revision Date	Review Date 04/13/2015
Manual: Nursing – Emergency Dept. Title: Patient LWBS (Left Without Being Seen)	<hr/> Chief Of Staff <hr/> Administrator	

PURPOSE:

Any patient that has not been seen by the triage nurse, but leaves with or without staff notification, is deemed to have Left Without Being Seen (LWBS).

POLICY:

- The following will be documented:
 - Time of registration
 - Time of departure, if known
 - Reasons for departure, if known
 - Documentation will include inability to have the patient sign the AMA form.

Crenshaw Community Hospital Policies and Procedures	Policy Number #ER100.190	Effective Date
	Revision Date	Review Date 03/05/2014
Manual: Nursing – Emergency Dept.		
Title: Patients Leaving AMA (Against Medical Advice)	Chief Of Staff	
	Administrator	

PURPOSE:

Establish criteria for documentation of patients leaving AMA (Against Medical Advice).

POLICY:

- All patients indicating the desire to leave against medical advice shall sign the AMA form.
 - The Registered Nurse and/or physician shall discuss with the patient and/or family, the potential risks of leaving AMA and the benefits of remaining.
 - The AMA form shall state the possible risks of leaving AMA and the benefits of remaining.
 - If after explanation of possible risks, the patient still wishes to leave AMA, request that the patient sign the AMA form and give a copy to the patient.
 - The Registered Nurse shall instruct the patient to follow up with his/her family physician or return if his/her condition worsens.
 - Document the patient’s desire to leave AMA, conversations on potential complications and patient’s condition prior to leaving the Emergency Department.
- In the event the patient leaves prior to an evaluation by the physician and does not notify any staff member of leaving, the Registered Nurse shall document the elopement of the patient in the nursing notes. An incident report shall be initiated for follow-up.