
SUBJECT	INDIGENT AND CHARITY CARE
PURPOSE	To provide care to patients experiencing economic hardship.
POLICY	<p>Patients may qualify for a charity care discount based upon individual criteria.</p> <p>If a physician on staff believes that a non-insured, indigent patient is need of care that cannot be delayed, the Business Office Manager or Administrator will be given the information to review and free or reduced price care may be offered.</p> <p>Patients will be asked to provide their previous year tax return and a current pay stub. Patient's income will be compared to the current National Poverty Level Sliding Scale. If a patient's income is at or below the national poverty level, the procedure may be performed as charity care. If the patient's income is one to two times the national poverty level, a fifty percent discount will be offered.</p> <p>Patients presenting through a community program offering free or reduced care may also be considered for a charity care discount.</p>