

# STATUTORY RULES.

## No. 13 of 1923.

Made under the *Public Hospitals Ordinance*, 1911.

1. (1) These Rules may be cited as the *Public Hospital Rules*, 1923.
- (2) These Rules shall apply to the Port Moresby Public Hospital and to the Samarai Public Hospital.
2. All Rules heretofore made and in force under the *Public Hospitals Ordinance*, 1911, are repealed.
3. In these Rules the word—  
“Hospital” means the Port Moresby Public Hospital or the Samarai Public Hospital as the case may require.

### *Admission of Patients.*

4. Patients who are proper subjects for medical or surgical treatment may be admitted into the hospital by the Medical Officer in Charge. If the Medical Officer refuses to admit any person to the hospital, such person, if aggrieved, may refer the matter to the Lieutenant-Governor, or to some person authorized by him, whose decision shall be final.

5. In cases of emergency, and where the Medical Officer is not immediately available, patients shall be admitted by the Matron or Nurse in Charge.

6. Admission to the hospital may be refused to any patient who presents himself for admission in a state of intoxication.

### *Patients.*

7. Patients shall observe the rules of the hospital, and shall follow the directions of the Medical Officer, Matron and Nurses.

8. All patients considered by the Medical Officer to be able to leave their beds, shall rise, and shall retire to rest, at such hours as from time to time may be fixed by the Medical Officer or Matron.

9. No patient shall enter any ward except that in which the bed assigned to him stands, except by direction of the Matron.

10. No patient shall smoke except by permission of the Medical Officer.

11. No patient shall bring or cause to be brought into the hospital or receive any article of food or drink other than is provided by the order of the Medical Officer.

12. Except as expressly permitted in these Rules, no patient or any person on his behalf shall give to, nor shall any Medical Officer or other member of the staff receive any fee, reward or gratuity in money or in kind.

13. Every patient shall conduct himself decently and orderly, and shall not only refrain from annoying his fellow patients, but shall assist them as much as possible.

14. (1) Every patient shall, on admission, give into the hands of the Matron, his money and effects, which the Matron shall receive, if possible, in the presence of a witness.

(2) The Matron shall make an inventory thereof, which the patient (if able) shall sign. The inventory shall be entered in the official record.

(3) The Matron shall hand the money and valuables to the Accountant at the Treasury, Port Moresby, or to the Principal Officer of Customs at Samarai, for safe custody. Such Accountant or officer as the case may be shall initial the official record in token of having received the property, and thereupon the Matron's responsibility shall cease.

(4) The Matron shall cause all other articles to be cleansed, and they shall then be neatly stored in an appointed place.

(5) All property thus held in charge for a patient shall be restored to him before his discharge, or, in case of death, to the Treasurer for safe custody if the property is of considerable value, or, if of little value, to his next friend. Provided that from money thus held in charge shall be first deducted the sum or any part thereof which the patient is liable to pay to the Government for fees for maintenance.

15. Every patient on admission shall give the Matron the name and address of his next friend or other person to whom he wishes notice to be given concerning him in case of emergency.

16. Every patient on admission shall give the Matron all the information required of him to keep the official record of admissions and discharges.

17. Should a patient have any complaint to make, he shall make it to the Medical Officer.

#### *Hospital Fees.*

18. Patients who are in necessitous circumstances and out of employment shall be admitted free of charge on condition that they sign (when presented to them for signature by an officer of the hospital staff) a statement that they are so, and an undertaking to pay the regulation Hospital Fee for maintenance when they are in a position to do so.

19. The Fee for maintenance shall be Ten shillings per day for patients using the public ward, and Fifteen shillings per day for patients using, at their own request, a private ward. In the case of missionaries and of children under the age of twelve years the fee shall be one-half of the foregoing rates.

20. The Medical Officer may charge reasonable fees for surgical operations performed by him upon patients using the public ward who have been admitted solely for that purpose; but he shall not charge fees for urgency operations so performed.

21. Patients desirous of admission to a private ward may be admitted thereto. Such patients may be charged reasonable professional fees by the Medical Officer.

#### *Visitors.*

22. Relatives and friends of patients in danger, also Ministers of Religion, may be admitted by the Matron at any hour of the day or night, subject to any definite instructions given by the Medical Officer, and ordinarily at reasonable hours. Other visitors may be admitted by the Matron at reasonable hours on any day subject to any definite instructions given by the Medical Officer.

23. The Matron may exclude any visitor or cause any visitor to leave the hospital for any sufficient reason, but she shall as soon as possible after taking such action report the circumstances in writing to the Medical Officer.

24. No visitor shall offer any gratuity in money or in kind to any officer or servant of the hospital.

25. No visitor shall give any patient food, drink, fruit, tobacco, medicines or other similar matter. A visitor may leave any such matter with the Matron, to be given to any patient subject to the approval of the Medical Officer.

*Books and Accounts.*

26. The Medical Officer shall keep such books and in such form, and shall render such accounts and in such form as the Treasurer may from time to time request.

27. The Treasurer or such officer as he may appoint shall have access to all books, vouchers and documents in charge of the Medical Officer.

28. Printed copies of Rules Nos. 7 to 25 inclusive shall be hung up in each ward of the hospital.

(2) A printed copy of Rules Nos. 18 to 25 (both inclusive) shall be hung in a conspicuous place near the entrance to the hospital.

Made in Executive Council this nineteenth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.

Executive Council Minute,  
No. 14 of 35/1923.

H. L. MURRAY,  
Clerk of Executive Council.

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