

December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006

Dear Physicians:

As we prepare for the January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007 implementation of our new tobacco-free policy, I wanted to provide you with an informational brochure. This brochure is helpful in explaining the new policy, and can be used to prepare patients prior to their admission to St. Charles Medical Center(s).

In our discussions with Bend and Redmond physicians at their respective medical staff meetings this Fall, we received unilateral support for this policy change. Thank you for your collaboration.

As discussed at the medical staff meetings, as well as in the December issue of Progress Notes, our policy tobacco shift includes:

1. Patients will be advised upon admission that CHC facilities are entirely tobacco-free. In addition, there will be signage posted and brochures available in all commonly used public areas.
2. Inpatients will be offered tobacco-cessation counseling. Those who are medically able can obtain treatment with nicotine replacement therapy. "Quit-kits" (containing sugar-free gum, mints, stir-straws, an herbal tea bag and tobacco cessation literature) will also be available through the Health and Learning Department.
3. Additionally, in an effort to support guests and visitors who normally use tobacco, CHC will provide nicotine gum at a discounted price through the outpatient pharmacy, the Health and Care Store (Bend campus) and the Gift Shop (Redmond campus).

If you have any questions about our new tobacco policy, please feel free to contact Health Promotion at 385-6390. If you would like to obtain more Tobacco Policy brochures (priced at cost of printing) you may order these at the same contact number as well.

Thank you,

Nancy Moore, RN, PhD  
Senior VP Healing Health & Chief Nurse Executive