

MODIFIED OUT ON PASS GUIDELINES FOR THE RE-INTEGRATION OF LONG-TERM RESIDENTS INTO THE COMMUNITY IN QATAR

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ABSTRACT

Within the realm of healthcare, the underutilization of temporary leave provided to patients by healthcare facilities remains a concern. The sole purpose of this study was to modify the out on pass guidelines based on the existing hospital policy to improve the patient participation in community integration programs. Descriptive developmental method, employing medical experts that worked in the hospital of Qatar for five (5) years or more that have knowledge about out on pass program. All medical professionals had submitted voluntarily in the study and used self-made questionnaires for collecting the needed primary data. Twelve medical experts generally “agreed” with the current status of the out on pass program and factors or reasons and their comments on the modified Out on Pass Policy with an average weighted mean of 3.30, 3.36 and 3.37, respectively. The modified policy provides significant improvement of patient participation in the out on pass program. Respondents’ level of acceptance of the modified out on pass policy was “high” with weighted mean of 3.35. It was concluded that the program effectively provides clear eligibility criteria, specifies pass durations, and outlines relevant conditions or restrictions. These adjustments reflect a holistic approach aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and responsiveness of the policy to the dynamic healthcare. The modified out on pass policy increases patient awareness through proper education and information dissemination which provide continuous communication and follow-up with the families.

Keywords: Current Out on Pass Policy. Modified Out on Pass Policy, Community Integration