

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Jacobson
FROM: Ron Morris
DATE: July 10, 1991
RE: Hospital Smoking Policies

As you know, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations has declared all hospitals will be smoke free by January, 1992. Our office has had a number of inquires from nurses and doctors seeking assistance to prevent this ban.

One of our local tobacco distributors, Stu Grossman, is a member of the local Joint Hospital Board. He has furnished us with some information from the JCAHO's Public Relations Division. Diana Avedon has also furnished us with an update of state laws regarding smoking in hospitals. Both pieces of information are attached.

It seems to us that if an accreditation policy is to be valued they must be universally and uniformly applied. As you can see from Diana's work a number of state laws prohibit banning of smoking in hospitals. Therefore, JCAHO is requiring some hospitals to break state law in order to receive accreditation for Medicare/Medicaid payments.

If you are able to use the information Diana has furnished us in a discreet manner we may be able to undermine the anti-tobacco movement in hospitals at least as an accreditation effort.

R.C.M.

RCM/sfd
Attachments

cc: George Minshew

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MISSISSIPPI TOBACCO LITIGATION**

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