INTENT

It is the intent of this Policy to define the protocols regarding use of the Ghering Health Center of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (hereafter called Ghering Health Center) and to limit the utilization of medical services by non-students. Such limitations are necessary to insure that Edinboro University of Pennsylvania students receive the most prompt and efficient care available at the Ghering Health Center.

DEFINITIONS

Emergency Medical Care is defined as treatment of a condition diagnosed by a Ghering Health Center staff physician as needing immediate action to prevent serious impairment, dysfunction or death.

Student is defined as an individual currently enrolled at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and not otherwise restricted from attending classes (i.e., disciplinary and/or medical reasons) by the University.

POLICY

1. The Ghering Health Center will provide all reasonable and necessary medical care required to Edinboro University of Pennsylvania students needing such services.
2. The Ghering Health Center will provide emergency medical care of an illness or injury at the Health Center facilities to all students, faculty, staff and/or University guests/visitors.
3. Guests/visitors of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, which may include but are not limited to students not currently enrolled at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (i.e., prospective students who are visiting or foreign students granted permission to stay until travel arrangements are cleared), seeking treatment of an illness or injury, not qualifying as emergency medical treatment, will be referred to appropriate health care providers.

Any exception to the treatment restriction covering University guests/visitors must be reviewed and approved by the Medical Director of the Ghering Health Center and/or the Director of Student Services prior to any treatment being dispensed.

PROCEDURE

1. Any student, faculty, staff member, and/or University guest/visitor, who comes in or is brought to the Ghering Health Center requiring emergency medical care will be treated as provided under existing medical procedures/protocols used by the Ghering Health Center.

2. Edinboro University of Pennsylvania students should present their University identification card at the Ghering Health Center to receive medical attention. Upon identity verification, the student will be provided primary care and/or on-going treatment (as determined by the physician) or will be referred to other health care facilities or providers.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Service provided by the Ghering Health Center to eligible Edinboro University of Pennsylvania students include:

a. Primary Care - The Ghering Health Center physician is the personal physician who is available for first contact and continuing care, and who offers a portal of entry to specialists for those conditions warranting referral. This type of practice characterizes activities of general practitioners, family physicians and general internists.

b. Emergency Care - The treatment of a sudden illness or injury that demands immediate action to prevent serious impairment, dysfunction or death.

c. Limited In-patient Care - The Ghering Health Center provides ten beds for the short term needs of the University students. Admissions are limited to the acute stage of illness or injury, until such time that the student is able to return to classes. If a positive response to medical or nursing care does not take place within 48 hours, the patient is referred home for care or to a health care facility of his/her choice.
d. Isolation Facilities - One private room with private bathroom facilities are available for isolation care of students, until such time as the student is:

1. transported home;

2. transported to another health care facility; or

3. until the student is deemed to be free of contagion and may return to classes.

e. Allergy Injections - Allergy injections are given only when precise, written orders are signed by the prescribing allergist. The patient must be current with his therapy and must supply his own specialized extracts. Registered nurses will administer the injections only when a Ghering Health Center physician is on the premises.

f. Tuberculin Skin Tests - Tuberculin Skin Tests are offered as a screening mechanism to all students requiring them for educational purposes: students anticipating any field service or student teaching within the public school system and nursing students anticipating clinical practice. A tuberculin testing clinic is offered once each semester at a pre-announced, designated campus site. The process requires an initial visit for the intradermal testing and a second visit (3 days later) for confirmation of negative or positive results. Any positive skin reactions are referred to the Health Department for further testing or treatment as indicated.

g. Immunization Programs - The Ghering Health Center has no immunization program at this time. Tetanus Toxoid Boosters are available and administered to students as indicated following injuries where skin is broken.

h. Transportation Services - The Edinboro Volunteer Fire Department responds to emergency calls at any time. The student is responsible for any ambulance fees encumbered. When a student needs transportation for non-emergency hospital visits, initial referral consultations, or upon hospital discharge, a student driver is employed to transport the student via a state-owned vehicle. The students are responsible for arranging their own transportation for routine follow-up visits.

i. Student Insurance Claim Forms - Claim forms are available at the Ghering Health Center. The student is responsible for completing information requested on the forms, including obtaining required signatures. The student attaches appropriate bills to the completed form and mails it directly to the insurance company whose name and address are at the top of the front portion of the claim form.

j. Laboratory Services - These services are provided at the Ghering Health Center via an independent laboratory service. A phlebotomist is present five mornings a week for routine blood draws. Other laboratory specimens are collected daily by the professional staff at the Ghering Health Center. All lab tests are ordered by a physician. Results from most tests are available within two to three days, at which time the student must return to Ghering Health Center for a lab review. All billing is done by the laboratory service.
k. Referral Services - As the needs arise, students may be referred to other agencies for:

1. care not provided by the Ghering Health Center;
2. care in conjunction with care provided by the Ghering Health Center;
3. more specialized care; or
4. more expedient care.

l. Resource Services - Resources are also provided through the availability of informational/educational pamphlets at the Ghering Health Center. These are accessible in the Health Center lobby and are frequently used as an adjunct to patient teaching by the professional staff.