



# 04-01 Investigations at Hospitals

**Status:** Amended

**Issued:** 2024.08.27

**Replaces:** 2022.06.15

## Rationale

There are instances when police officers may be required to attend hospitals as part of an investigation to interview staff or patients, or to obtain video evidence. This Procedure provides direction in these instances.

## Procedure

Interviews and investigations at hospitals must be carried out in such a way as to minimize any disruption to the delivery of necessary medical services, while at the same time ensuring that a proper and thorough investigation is conducted. Since investigations at hospitals usually result from other incidents, officers shall also comply with any other applicable procedures.

### Interviewing Hospital Staff Members

Police officers attending hospitals on police business for the purpose of interviewing on-duty hospital staff members shall first obtain permission from the Administrator, Executive Director or other senior ranking hospital official. Such business should be conducted between 0900 hours and 1700 hours. However, if the subject is of an urgent nature and must be conducted outside of these hours, permission shall be obtained from the senior ranking hospital official on duty.

### Interviewing Patients in a Hospital

When seeking to interview a patient in a hospital, officers should first notify an attending staff member.

#### Police Officer

1. When investigating an occurrence where a person has been taken to a hospital shall conduct a thorough investigation.
2. When the seizure of video evidence from a hospital is required shall:
  - request the video evidence on consent from the Administrator, or other senior ranking hospital official, and
  - if denied, obtain a Production Order in compliance with Procedure 02–17

3. If the hospitalized person is:
  - in violation of bail, parole, probation, or a judicial release
  - wanted on a warrant
  - on observation
  - a suspect for an offenceshall notify the
  - unit having jurisdiction
    - by telephone, or
    - if unable to do so
      - complete the applicable eReport and forward the eReport number to the unit, or
      - add supplementary information to the original eReport
  - police service having jurisdiction by CPIC
4. Upon request of the person, or when due to their age or condition the person is unable to give consent, shall notify a relative or next of kin in compliance with the applicable items in the Compassionate Messages section of Procedure 04–02 and provide.
  - the name of the hospital
  - the date and reason for hospitalization
  - the condition of the person, if known
  - any other pertinent information
5. If attempts to reach a relative/next of kin are unsuccessful shall comply with the applicable items in the Compassionate Messages section of Procedure 04-02.

## Supplementary Information

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### Associated Governance

#### Toronto Police Service Procedures:

- 02–17 Obtaining a Search Warrant
- 03-06 Guarding Persons in Hospital
- 04-02 Death Investigations
- 05-01 Preliminary Homicide Investigation
- 05-04 Intimate Partner Violence
- 05-05 Sexual Assault
- 05-06 Child Abuse
- 05-07 Fire Investigations
- 05-09 Tampering or Sabotage of Food, Drugs, Cosmetics or Medical Devices
- 06-04 Persons In Crisis
- Chapter 7 Vehicle Investigations
- Chapter 10 Emergencies & Hazardous Incidents
- 17–07 BOLOs and FYIs

#### Forms:

- eReports

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