### PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the instruction of patients and family/caregivers regarding the safe, effective use of medical equipment and/or supplies.

### POLICY

Patients will receive information regarding the safe and effective use of home medical equipment (HME) and supplies provided by Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice. When medical equipment is supplied by another organization, organization personnel will be supportive in the patient teaching role.

### PROCEDURE

* 1. Upon admission, the patient assessment will document the use of any medical equipment or supplies being used in the home.
  2. The clinician will, through interview and observation, determine patient and family/caregiver level of understanding of the use of any equipment and supplies ordered for care, treatment, and service.
  3. If the patient and family/caregiver have knowledge and skill deficits regarding the use of the HME or supplies and the clinician has a sound knowledge base regarding the equipment or supplies, the clinician may provide additional instruction to the patient and family/caregiver.
  4. If the patient and family/caregiver have knowledge and skill deficits regarding the use of the HME and the clinician does not have a sound knowledge base regarding the equipment, the clinician will contact the HME company to further instruct the patient and family/caregiver.
  5. Specific operational information related to these items will be obtained from the HME company providing the equipment.
  6. If equipment operation has not been explained to the patient by the HME company, the clinician should provide or arrange education or contact the company to provide further information and/or instruction, as needed.
  7. Documentation of patient and family/caregiver instruction will be made in clinical record.