**Policy**

Ohio Living Communities are dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of good health. Our goal is to provide a comfortable and productive environment for all residents and employees. We are committed to protecting the health of those living and working in our facilities.

**Procedure**

Residents that live/stay within the licensed nursing home and assisted living:

1. Prospective residents will be informed and must understand prior to move-in that smoking inside and on the grounds of the licensed areas is prohibited.
2. Independent residents may smoke within the confines of their private room/apartment/ home. They must close their apartment doors to outside hallways when smoking.
3. Electronic Cigarettes (e-cigarettes): E-cigarettes have no flame. There are two components to most devices. One is the LED light bulb that simulates the "coal" on a cigarette. The other is a heating coil that vaporizes the propylene glycol, the "smoke" agent. Propylene glycol is not a fuel, and the heating coil is operated at very low amperage. In a survey and certification letter dated November 10, 2011(S&C: 12-04-NH), CMS stated “e-cigarettes are not considered smoking devices, and their heating element does not pose the same dangers of ignition as regular cigarettes.
   1. E-cigarettes are not allowed in or on the grounds of the licensed areas.