

CLOTHING AND LAUNDRY

LAW

Each patient shall... "Be permitted to use and wear his or her own **clothing and personal articles**, or be furnished with an adequate allowance of clothes if none are available. Provision shall be made to launder the patient's clothing."

§ 51.61(1)(q), Wis. Stats. [Emphasis added.]

"(1) **Inpatients** shall be permitted to **wear their own clothing** as authorized under s. 51.61(1)(q), Stats., and this section.

(2) **If inpatients do not have enough of their own clothing**, they shall be **furnished with appropriate noninstitutional clothing** of proper size as follows:

- (a) There shall be **sufficient** clothing to allow each patient at least one change of underwear a day and 3 changes of clothing a week; and
- (b) There shall be clothing which is **appropriate** for patients to wear out of doors and on trips or visits in all weather conditions.

(3) All **inpatients** shall be provided with **laundry service** or, if the patient can use a washer and dryer, with access to washers and dryers. Facilities shall take reasonable measures to prevent the loss of inpatients' clothing during use of laundry services."

DHS 94.26, Wis. Admin. Code [Emphasis added.]

DECISIONS

1. A patient was receiving services at a Community Based Residential Facility under a commitment order and an involuntary medication order. The patient alleged that the provider took the patient's head scarf and did not return it. Her treatment record reflected that she wore a head scarf but never mentioned that the head scarf was a problem or that it was taken by staff. **The grievant did not meet her burden of proof that her scarf was taken away because she produced no evidence other than her own testimony.** (Level IV decision in Case No. 15-SGE-0001 on 10/17/2016)

[See: "Introduction to Digest-Date Last Updated" page.]