ALIAS DESIGNATIONS

What You Need to Know:

The *Alias* designation provisions apply only to *bedded patients*

- **Alias Patient**: A patient determined by VUMC to require assignment of a pseudo name to hide their actual identity while they are an inpatient. *(not for routine use)*

- **No Information Patient**: A patient for whom a release of any information outside of the direct care team is strictly controlled. *(The decision to be “no information” may be reversed upon request from the patient or the patient’s designated representative, unless the patient is a VPH patient or is deemed a “Security Risk”)*.

- **Security Risk Patient**: A patient whose presence may result in the potential for danger or harm to the patient, visitors, or staff; either directly or through associated visitors or others. Patients who are known or suspected victims of violent crimes may be considered a security risk at any time throughout the hospital stay.

**Alias Designations**:
- Use only in very limited circumstances and is the *Last Measure of Restriction*.
- VUH Admitting /Registration provide options for patients to *Opt Out* so they are not placed on the whiteboard or the patient has the option to choose a nickname when an Alias name cannot be applied.
- When it is determined that No Information status and the Security Risk Indicator are not sufficient to manage the extraordinary requirements for confidentiality regarding the identity and location of a patient, an Alias name is assigned.
- If there is not a Security Risk Indicator that fits the description for an Alias Designation, an Alias name will not be assigned.

**Alias Restrictions**:
- Alias status patients are allowed only four pre-approved family/visitors.
- Extreme circumstances, as determined by VUMC, may warrant additional pre-approved visitors.
- VUPD interviews and approves the family/visitors and escorts the family/visitor to the inpatient unit for the initial visit.
- Approved visitors must have valid photo identification for verification of identity.

**Alias Concerns**:
- Alias designations are not to be used for out-patients (non bedded patients).
- Alias designations are not to be routinely used to hide the identity of an employee from co-workers.
- VUMC Privacy and Security policies are in place to control unauthorized access and disclosure & all employees sign confidentiality agreements.