

**SUBJECT:** Helipad Operations

**PURPOSE:** To outline guidelines for helipad usage with the intent of minimizing safety concerns for the children's play area (located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor) and other surrounding areas.

**POLICY:**

The Skyport helipad location has raised concern that objects may become airborne and become a hazard to personnel on the lower levels of the hospital grounds. Wind (air currents), water and noise have become a cause of concern for those below.

Safe arrival, departure and ground operations of the aircraft (AC) are the primary concern. At no time will the pilot in charge (PIC) make any maneuvers that will cause a safety issue for the AC operations. Whenever possible, the PIC will make every effort to avoid overflying the children's 5<sup>th</sup> floor play area. This area is identified as the courtyard located between the north and south towers of the main hospital. However, if for any reason (i.e. weather/wind conditions) the PIC deems it necessary to overfly the playground, he may do so as needed. This protocol insures that there will be no changes or modifications in flight patterns or operations that might jeopardize safe AC operations.

Every effort will be made to secure items on the helipad and in/around the AC. Helipad personnel will secure patient transport stretchers, maintenance tools, and all other equipment. Attention to the above-mentioned equipment will minimize the effects of possible high winds and the sloping deck of the helipad. In an effort to minimize the number of items blowing free of the interior of the AC, the doors of the AC will be closed whenever possible.