

1 10A NCAC 14E .0313 is proposed for amendment as follows:

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3 **10A NCAC 14E .0313 POST-OPERATIVE CARE**

4 (a) ~~Patients~~ A patient whose pregnancy is terminated on an ambulatory basis ~~should~~ shall be observed in the  
5 ~~abortion clinic for a reasonable number of hours, not less than one, to insure~~ to ensure that no immediate  
6 post-operative complications are present. Thereafter, patients may be discharged according to a physician's order  
7 and the clinic's protocols. ~~such patients may be discharged if their course has been uneventful.~~

8 (b) Any patient having an adverse condition or complication known or suspected to have occurred during or after  
9 the performance of the abortion shall be transferred to ~~the back-up~~ a hospital for evaluation or admission.

10 (c) The following criteria must be documented prior to discharge:

11 (1) the patient must be ambulatory with a stable blood pressure and pulse; and

12 (2) bleeding and pain must be controlled.

13 ~~(e) Any non-ambulatory patient shall be accompanied by an attending medical or nursing staff member during any~~  
14 ~~transfer within or outside the facility.~~

15 (d) Written instructions shall be issued to all patients in accordance with the ~~rules~~ orders of the physician in charge  
16 of the abortion service and shall include the following:

17 (1) symptoms and complications to be looked ~~for,~~ for; and

18 (2) ~~activities to be avoided;~~

19 ~~(3)~~ (2) specific a dedicated telephone number to be used by the patients should any complication occur or  
20 question arise. This number must be answered by a person 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A  
21 recorded phone message only is unacceptable.

22 (e) The clinic shall have a defined protocol for triaging post-operative calls and complications. This protocol shall  
23 establish a pathway for physician contact to ensure ongoing care of complications which the operating physician is  
24 incapable of managing.

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26 *History Note: Authority G.S. 14-45.1(a); 143B-10;*

27 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*

28 *Readopted Eff. December 19, 1977;*

29 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2015; December 24, 1979.*