

	POLICY NAME: ROLLING PLAINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INDIGENT HEALTH CARE PROGRAM FOR NOLAN COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT	POLICY NUMBER: 3078
	APPROVAL: BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULIE HALL	ORIGINAL DATE: 05/17/2005
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/14/2016	REVIEWED DATE: 01/25/2019	REVISION DATE: 11/13/2016

Purpose:

- A. To satisfy the statutory requirements as a hospital district and meet those moral obligations inherent in being the sole hospital in this community.
- B. To define Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital’s role and scope of providing health care to indigent residents of Nolan County Hospital District.
- C. To establish guidelines to determine the eligibility of applicants and the extent of services to be provided to qualified individuals.

Policy and Procedures:

- A. The medical and hospital care of indigent persons as provided by the Texas Constitution and the Statute creating the hospital district, shall be furnished to such persons exclusively within Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital, RPMH physician offices and the RPMH RHC.
- B. A person applying for medical or hospital care as an indigent person shall meet the criteria set forth in Section 2 of the County Indigent Health Care Program Handbook (CIHCP). The applicant shall submit a full and complete application including verification of financial status, all real and personal property and a request to be considered indigent. The individual must maintain a residence within Nolan County Hospital District and may not have a homestead or maintain a place of residence outside the District.

Eligibility for Nolan County IHC is based on the minimum income standard as set forth in the CIHCP and updated annually. The applicant must meet the residency, household composition, income, and resource guidelines outlined in the Eligibility Criteria (Section 2) of the CIHCP.

- C. No patient will be denied emergency medical care at Rolling Plains based on the inability to pay for services.
- D. Prior to the granting of indigent status, each application will be reviewed by the Nolan County IHC Coordinator in accordance with the CIHCP. The determination of indigent status will be made within fourteen days of

the receipt of a complete application with supporting documentation. Any deviation from the content of this policy must have administrative approval. The Nolan County Hospital District Board of Directors will conduct an annual review of this policy.

- E. The policy regarding payment of outside sources/providers is based on 61.055 of the Health & Safety Code Chapter 61 which states:  
a hospital district *shall endeavor* to provide the basic health care services a county is required to provide under Section 61.028, together with any other services required under the Texas Constitution and the statute creating the district.

Nolan County Hospital District only provides for services obtained at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital. The District is not financially responsible for services rendered by other providers. The only exception to this rule was established with the creation of a policy for physician reimbursement for inpatient indigent care (of qualified IHC patients seen at RPMH).