# Weapon-Free Zone

For everyone's safety, weapon detection systems are in use.

In an effort to ensure the safety of our staff, patients and all who visit, CharterCARE Health Partners has installed weapon detection systems at entrances. These weapon detection systems are one of the many safety protocols we have in place throughout our facilities

#### What You Need to Know

#### Why is CharterCARE installing these systems?

Weapon detectors are a common practice in health care and other settings. They detect items that may compromise the safety of those in the hospital. These detectors are just one of several safety measures CharterCARE has taken to ensure a positive experience for our patients, their loved ones and our staff members.

#### Who is required to go through the weapon detector?

Any Patient, Visitor or Vendor entering the hospital is required to walk through the weapon detector. They will be active 24/7. Anyone previously screened who leaves the ER must be rescreened before returning to the ER.

I have an implanted medical device in my body/ medical equipment that I need to carry with me at all times. Can I pass through these detectors?

It is safe for all individuals to pass through the detectors, including those with pacemakers, implants of any kind and women who are pregnant.

## I use a wheelchair. Will I still be required to go through the weapon detectors?

Patients and visitors who may have difficulty moving through the weapon detector, such as those in wheelchairs, on stretchers or in medical restraints, will be screened with a handheld device.

### What personal items are not allowed inside the hospital?

Per our policies, any personal item that is considered a weapon is not allowed on our campus or inside our hospital. This includes any handgun, long gun, any type or style of knife, sharp tools, razors, ammunition for firearms, or any object that CharterCARE Security feels presents a threat.

# What happens if I accidentally bring a prohibited item with me to the hospital? Can I get it back after my visit?

You will be given an opportunity to return items to your vehicle that the hospital prohibits but are legal in Rhode Island. Such items include pepper spray, and tools of any kind. If you do not have a vehicle on-site, our security officers will hold the item in the security office on the ground level of the East Wing for pickup after your visit.

Illegal items collected will be turned over to the local police.



### **Questions?**

If you have further questions about these weapon detection systems or our safety policies, please contact CharterCARE Director of Security at 401-456-2350.