600  MINOR'S HEALTH CONSENT

600.1 Any person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may consent to the provision of health services for himself or herself, or for his or her child or spouse.

600.2 Any minor who is seventeen (17) years of age or more may consent to voluntarily donate blood to a nonprofit organization, being regarded as having achieved his or her majority for the purposes of this section.

600.3 A minor parent may consent to the provisions of health services to his or her child.

600.4 Health services may be provided to a minor of any age without parental consent when, in the judgement of the treating physician, surgeon, or dentist, the delay that would result from attempting to obtain parental consent would substantially increase the risk to the minor's life, health, mental health, or welfare, or would unduly prolong suffering.

600.5 A health professional may render or attempt to render emergency service of first aid, medical, surgical, dental, or psychiatric treatment without compensation to any injured person or any person regardless of age who is in need of immediate health care when, in good faith, the professional believes that the giving of aid is the only alternative to probable death or serious physical or mental damage.

600.6 In an emergency where major surgery or any dangerous procedures will be performed, concurrence of another physician shall, if practical, be obtained.

600.7 A minor of any age may consent to health services which he or she requests for the prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of the following medical situations:

(a) Pregnancy or its lawful termination;

(b) Substance abuse, including drug and alcohol abuse; and

(c) A mental or emotional condition and sexually transmitted disease.

600.8 Self-consent of minors shall not apply to sterilization, such as tubal ligation or vasectomy.

AUTHORITY: Unless otherwise noted, the authority for this chapter is Commissioners’ Orders dated January 7, 1924, April 2, 1943, May 21, 1947, October 11, 1951, and April 18, 1963; the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act ’412, D.C. Code, 2001 Ed. § 1 204.04.