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| **MONTCALM CARE NETWORK**  **611 North State Street, Stanton, MI 48888** | |
| SUBJECT: Treatment by Spiritual Means | Section: 8907 |
| Effective Date: February 24, 1987 | Revised Date: August 26, 1997, August 26, 2003, April 25, 2006 |
| Version: 1 | Status: Current |

1. "Treatment by spiritual means" encompasses a spiritual discipline or school of thought upon which a recipient wishes to rely to aid physical or mental recovery and includes easy access, at the recipient's expense, to printed, recorded or visual material essential or related to treatment by spiritual means and to a symbolic object of similar significance.
2. Recipients willbe permitted to treatment by spiritual means upon request of the recipient, therecipient's guardian or parent of a minor recipient.
3. The treating clinician will notify the Director of the Montcalm Care Network and Probate Court, if appropriate, when medication or other treatment for a minor is refused for spiritual reasons.
4. If a request for treatment by spiritual means is denied, the treating clinician will give written notice to the requesting person indicating the reasons for denial. This notice will be part of the recipient's clinical record.
5. If treatment by spiritual means is denied, the treating clinician will notify the requesting that they may appeal the decision to the rights office.
6. Opportunity for contact with agencies providing treatment by spiritual means will be provided in the same manner as is provided for contact with private mental health professionals.
7. The "right to treatment by spiritual means" includes the right of a recipient, guardian, or parent of a minor to refuse medication or other treatment on spiritual grounds which predate the current allegations of mental illness or disability, but does not extend to circumstances where either:
   1. A guardian or the Agency has been empowered by a court to consent to or provide treatment and has done so.
   2. A recipient poses harm to himself or herself or others and treatment is essential to prevent physical injury.
8. The right to treatment by spiritual means does not include the right to:
   1. Use mechanical devices or chemical or organic compounds which are physically harmful;

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* 1. Engage in activity prohibited by law;
  2. Engage in activity which physically harmful tothe recipient or others;
  3. Engage in activity which is inconsistent with court ordered custody orplacement by a person other than the recipient.