

FAQS FOR THE WEAPON DETECTION SECURITY SYSTEM



In compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 2975 Hospital Weapons Detection Policy and Screening, the California Department of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) is mandating hospitals to adopt a weapon detection screening process by March 1, 2027.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q: Why did Salinas Valley Health implement this weapons screening?

A: The well-being of everyone at the Salinas Valley Health Medical Center has always been our top priority. The use of this system added another layer to our comprehensive security program designed to protect the safety of everyone who enters our facility.

2. Q: Who is required to go through the weapons screening?

A: Anyone entering our Main Lobby or Emergency Department is required to pass through the detection system. This includes patients, visitors, physicians, staff and volunteers. Anyone previously screened who leaves the facility must be rescreened before reentering.

3. Q: How will the screening work?

A: Screenings take place at the Main Lobby entrance to the medical center and the Emergency Department entrance with security personnel monitoring the process. Individuals enter between two panels of the Evolv Express System as shown above.

4. Q: I use a wheelchair. Will I still be required to go through the weapons detection system?

A: Individuals who may have difficulty moving through the detection system, such as those in wheelchairs, are screened with a handheld device.

5. Q: What if someone entering has a medical emergency?

A: Contingency plans are in place to accommodate patients with emergencies and special circumstances, including those who arrive on gurneys, stretchers or with other medical equipment.

FAQS FOR THE WEAPON DETECTION SECURITY SYSTEM**6. Q: Does the detection system impact implanted devices such as a pacemaker or defibrillator?**

A: The system is considered safe with low- to no-risk for individuals with medically implanted devices. If an individual is not comfortable entering through the system, they may request an alternative screening.

7. Q: Will the detection system impact pregnant women?

A: The system is considered safe for the general public, which, by definition, includes those who are pregnant and their unborn children, as well as detection system operators. If an individual is not comfortable entering through the system, they may request an alternative screening.

8. Q: What is considered a “weapon” and prohibited at the medical center?

A: Items considered weapons and not allowed at the medical center include, but are not limited to, firearms and any type or style of knife or other sharp-edged weapon.

9. Q: What happens if I accidentally bring a prohibited item with me to the medical center?

A: If a prohibited item is accidentally brought onto medical center property by an individual, they will be given an opportunity to leave the property with a security escort. If the situation warrants, our security officers can take possession of the item for duration of their visit, at which time they will be escorted from the property prior to returning the item. If the individual with the prohibited item does not cooperate, they will be immediately escorted from medical center property, and law enforcement may be notified in accordance with policy.

10. Q: Who can I contact at Salinas Valley Health with questions or feedback?

A: Patients and visitors may call our main line at **831-757-4333** and request to speak with our Security Department or Patient Experience with questions and/or feedback. Alternatively, they may send an email to Questions@SalinasValleyHealth.com.

11. Q: Where can I learn more about the Evolv Express System being used for weapons screening?

A: For additional details about the Evolv Express System, scan the QR code below.

