



Elimination Care Procedure

Procedure Number
WCDHB-PG-0064

Version Nos:
4

1. Purpose

This Procedure is performed to ensure the provision of appropriate elimination care to all West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) patients/consumers/residents.

2. Application/Responsibilities

This Procedure is to be followed by all WCDHB clinical staff members.

3. Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this Procedure.

4. Responsibilities

All WCDHB Staff Members are required to ensure they abide by the requirements of this Procedure.

5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires:

- i) Clinical Record
- ii) Laxatives/bulking agents/suppositories/enemas

6. Process

- 1.00 Each patient/consumer/resident admitted to a WCDHB Facility is to have any special elimination needs assessed as part of the admissions process.
- 1.01 Measures to promote normal, regular bowel patterns are to be incorporated into the patient's/consumer's/resident's care programme. The first choice is always via natural means and this will include:-
 - i) Balanced diet and adequate fluids
 - ii) Use of fruit and or bran
 - iii) Adequate time with toileting
 - iv) Exercise within the patient's/consumer's/resident's capabilities eg walking
- 1.02 For patients/consumers/residents with elimination difficulties, their elimination pattern is to be documented against their normal pattern. Where deviation from the norm is identified this is to be documented along with plans for ongoing monitoring, investigations, and or interventions as necessary.
- 1.03 Where a patient/consumer/resident has elimination problems due to medical, physical or mental health problems, planning for their dietary requirements is to be done in consultation with members of the relevant MDT.
- 1.04 All staff members working with the patient consumer/resident are to be aware of their special needs and comply with the documented care plan.



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- 1.05 Types of treatments provided are to be clearly documented in the patient's/consumer's/resident's clinical record.
- 1.06 The use of laxatives/bulking agents/suppositories/enemas are to be first prescribed by a medical practitioner (in accordance with the *WCDHB Prescribing Procedure*). Administration of these products is to be in accordance with the relevant WCDHB Procedures.
- 1.07 Measures to aid elimination will be evaluated on a regular basis and this evaluation documented in the patient's/consumer's/resident's clinical record.
- 1.08 Establishment of regular toileting patterns and time tables are to be incorporated into the patient's/consumer's/resident's daily routine to help establish regularity and continuance.
- 1.09 Patient's/consumer's/resident's needs for privacy and dignity are respected and promoted as much as possible. However, it may be necessary for some patients/consumers/residents to be closely observed. Where this is to occur it is to be undertaken in a respectful manner.
- 1.10 All staff members working with a patient/consumer/resident are to be aware of any special elimination needs and comply with the relevant care plan for that patient/consumer/resident

7. Precautions And Considerations

- ➔ Each patient/consumer/resident admitted to a WCDHB Facility is to have any special elimination needs assessed as part of the admissions process.
- ➔ Measures to promote normal, regular bowel patterns are to be incorporated into the patient's/consumer's/resident's care programme.
- ➔ Patient's/consumer's/resident's needs for privacy and dignity are respected and promoted as much as possible.

8. References

There are no references associated with this Procedure

9. Related Documents

WCDHB Clinical Documentation Procedure

WCDHB Prescribing Procedure

Revision History	Version:	4
	Developed By:	Quality Improvement Co-Ordinator
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