



Spiritual Care Procedure

Procedure Number

WCDHB-PN-0102

Version Nos:

4

1. Purpose

This Procedure outlines a process for the spiritual care of patients, which should be non-sectarian, non-denominational and inclusive with the goal of supporting the patient's and their family/whanau/caregivers spiritual and/or religious practices.

2. Application

This Procedure is to be followed by all clinical staff throughout the West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB).

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Procedure:

Spiritual Care is taken to mean an individual's religion, beliefs and cultural practice.

4. Responsibilities

For the purposes of this Procedure:

All *Staff Members* are required to abide by the requirements of this Procedure

5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires no specific resources.

6. Process

- 1.00 All WCDHB patients/consumers/residents will have the opportunity to convey their individual beliefs and values regarding spirituality, and that their particular spiritual/religious practices will be included in their care plan.
- 1.01 Quality clinical care endeavours to see patients/consumers/residents live each day to the fullest using the guiding principles of autonomy, choice, advocacy and by supporting optimal and personalised experiences.
- 1.02 The WCDHB respects the rights of patients/consumers/residents to spiritual care whilst they are utilising a WCDHB Inpatient/Residential Service.
- 1.03 A fundamental principle of spiritual care is listening to the patient and their family/whanau/caregiver, which promotes a way for the patient and their family to come to terms with their illness. It should also not be forgotten that spiritually assists to normalise problems, provide information to help with coping and encourage the patient and their family/whanau/ caregivers to find support.
- 1.04 For long-stay patients/consumers/residents, their individual spiritual/religious beliefs are to be identified and documented in their clinical record, as part of their admission process. This is to be reviewed at the request of the patient/consumer/resident or every 6 months.



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- 1.05 In the patient's/resident's/consumer's care plan, a goal relating to their spiritual/religious beliefs is to be documented, and is to be reviewed at the request of the patient/consumer/resident or every 6 months.
- 1.06 Patients/consumers/residents and their family/whanau/caregivers requiring a visit from a Minister/Priest are to be encouraged to initiate a visit from their parish Minister/Priest or any member of their denominational group.
- 1.07 A list of Ministers/Priests who visit WCDHB Inpatient/Residential Facilities regularly, and are also available to be called in emergency situations is to be made available to patients/consumers/residents in each WCDHB Inpatient/Residential Facility.
- 1.08 Visiting Chaplains are required to sign in at the Main Reception and wear WCDHB Visitor identification (as per the *WCDHB Visitor Identification Procedure*). Access to personal health information by Chaplains is to occur as per the requirements of the *WCDHB Access by Chaplains To Personal Health Information Procedure*.
- 1.09 WCDHB will recognise and support various festive events and practices when developing individual and group patient/consumer resident activities programmes.
- 1.10 WCDHB will make available in each WCDHB Inpatient/Residential Facility a private area for regular spiritual/religious meetings of a non-sectarian, non-denominational nature. However this area is not to be a common area e.g. lounges.

7. Precautions And Considerations

- ➔ In the patient's/resident's/consumer's care plan, a goal relating to their spiritual/religious beliefs is to be documented
- ➔ Visiting Chaplains are required to sign in at the Main Reception and wear WCDHB Visitor identification
- ➔ WCDHB will make available in each WCDHB Inpatient/Residential Facility a private area for regular spiritual/religious meetings

8. References

There are no specific references associated with this Procedure

9. Related Documents

WCDHB Access by Chaplains To Personal Health Information Procedure
WCDHB Clinical Documentation Procedure
WCDHB Visitor Identification Procedure
WCDHB Compliance With The Code Of Health & Disability Services Consumers Rights Procedure



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	Developed By:	Quality Improvement Co-Ordinator
	Authorised By:	Director of Nursing
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