

SPIRITUAL CARE: RELEVANT AND RESPONSIVE IN TIMES OF CRISIS



beliefs



values



traditions



practices

Puchalski et al. 2014

SUPPORT SPIRITUAL WELLBEING

The spiritual care practitioner has contributed to the wellbeing of our long term patients and has provided regular emotional support to our nursing team.

I have no doubt it has impacted upon the experience of patients and families being cared for in the ICU

Paula Lyons, acting Nurse Unit Manager, Western Health Footscray ICU, 2022

During the pandemic, spiritual care practitioners helped by tweeting daily a message for staff in the hospital. Offering meditation for staff and debriefing.

Tan et al. 2021

OFFER A SAFE SPACE

*Staff commented that the [spiritual care practitioner's] presence at times of crisis or trauma changed the dynamic of the moment and **engendered a sense of safety** and greater control over the situation.*

Aiken, 2022



ADVOCATE FOR PATIENT NEEDS

- Facilitate communication between patient and/ or family members and care team
- Bridge communication and conflict between patient/family and team
- Bridge communication between team/hospital, patient/family and local religious leaders/ community

Damen et al. 2018

EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO RECEIVE SPIRITUAL CARE.

Spiritual care is part of person-centred care that:

- Provides the patient with access to health care services and treatment that meets their needs
- Contributes to high quality health care that meets national standards
- Respects and recognises the patient's culture, identity, beliefs and choices
- Gives an opportunity for the patient and their families to ask questions and be involved in open and honest communication

Charter of Health Care Rights, ACSQHC, 2019



Spiritual Health Association

SPIRITUAL CARE PRACTITIONERS: WHO ARE THEY?

- Qualified and credentialed members of the interdisciplinary care team
- Work across diverse beliefs, cultural perspectives, and spiritual practices
- Work to meet the spiritual needs of patients, family members, caregivers, and health care staff.



WHAT DO THEY DO?



Conduct spiritual needs assessment

Gathering and evaluating in-depth information regarding the patient's spirituality, cultural and emotional needs and resources.

Balboni et al. 2017



Offer counselling, guidance and education

In-depth review of a person's life journey, personal or familial counsel, ethical consultation, mental health support, end of life care and guidance in matters of beliefs, traditions, values and practices.

Balboni et al. 2017



Support patient and staff spiritual wellbeing

Companionship of person(s) confronted with profound human issues of death, dying, loss, meaning and aloneness, emotional support and advocacy, enabling conversation to nurture spiritual wellbeing and healing, establishing relationship, hearing the person(s) narrative.

Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, 2019



Offer meaningful rituals

Assist with spiritual/religious practices

Advocate Health Care, 2014

Deep listening

Safe space

Quiet presence



FOSTERING YOUR SPIRITUAL WELLBEING



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