

**BLOOMFIELD CARE CENTRE
STOCKING LANE, RATHFARNHAM, D.16**

**POLICY STATEMENT:
Care of the Dying**

Purpose: to provide guidelines to medical and nursing personnel in relation to care of the dying

Primary Responsibility: Clinical Personnel

1. POLICY

It is the policy of Bloomfield Care Centre to provide physical comfort and emotional support to those residents/patients who are dying and to give emotional support to the family.

2. PROCEDURE

- 2.1 Support and information is offered to the resident/patient and family to enable them to meet their physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs.
- 2.2 The patient/resident is allowed to maintain their dignity and is respected as an individual.
- 2.3 Physical symptoms such as pain or nausea are controlled in accordance with discussion and instruction from the Medical Officer.
- 2.4 Patients/residents who are dying should be nursed in a single room and the family offered accommodation if practicable.
- 2.5 If a resident/patient or their family wishes to see a Minister of Religion, the staff should make the necessary arrangements.
- 2.6 When a patient/resident dies, the Nurse indicates this to the family if they are present and withdraws from the room for a short while if the family so wish.
- 2.7 The Medical Officer is informed of the death and he/she certifies the death.

- 2.8 When a patient/resident dies the relevant faith practice of that person are respected, e.g. when a Jewish resident/patient dies the body is not touched by staff; the family and/or Rabbi will arrange last office.
- 2.9 The next of kin's wishes regarding valuables e.g. wedding rings should be carried out.
- 2.10 Patients/residents property is checked and given to the next of kin.
- 2.11 The death is recorded in the Nursing plan and the relevant Register.
- 2.12 The Coroner is informed of all deaths. The death of a patient/resident is also reported to the Mental Health Commissioner and/or HSE as appropriate.

Date Issued: January 2007
Date for Review: January 2008

Bloomfield Care Centre Limited: Policy on Care of the Dying

© Bloomfield Care Centre Limited January 2007