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Owner Cherie Hanning: Patient Safety & Risk Management Director
 Policy Area Patient Safety & Risk
 References Policy

Death with Dignity/Medical Aid in Dying

POLICY:

Confluence Health (CH) acknowledges that Washington law recognizes certain rights and responsibilities of qualified patients, health care providers, and health care organizations under the Washington Death with Dignity Act ("Act") also known as Initiative 1000. This policy describes participation under this Act by Confluence Health.

- A. Confluence Health will not permit life-ending medications obtained through the Act to be administered or ingested at any CH campus.
- B. All providers at Confluence Health are expected to respond to any patient's query about life-ending medication with openness and compassion. Our goal is to help ensure patients are educated thoroughly to make informed decisions about options for and participation in end-of-life care, including Palliative Care and Hospice Care.
- C. All physicians on the CH medical staff are permitted to make their own individual decisions on their level of participation in the Act. Those that choose to participate should become familiar with the reporting obligations and other requirements of the Act.
- D. No patient will be denied other medical care or treatment because of the patient's participation under the Act.

PROCEDURE:

- A. If a patient requests to participate in the Act, and the physician does not wish to participate, the physician will make a referral to another physician who does participate if a physician is known. Referral to Palliative Care and Hospice Care should also be considered.

- B. It is the participating physician's responsibility to ensure the correct procedures as required by the Act are followed and the required documentation is completed in accordance with the Act.

RESOURCES:

Physicians, pharmacists, APPs, staff, or patients seeking additional information can contact the following for information or consultation:

For questions regarding the process of death with dignity/medical aid in dying, obtaining medication, or referrals, please contact:

-Inpatient or Outpatient Palliative Care Team

-End of Life Washington: <https://endoflifewa.org>

For questions regarding the ethics of death with dignity/medical aid in dying, please contact:

-Confluence Health Ethics Team

For questions regarding regulations or Confluence Health policies, please contact:

-V.P. Of Risk and Regulatory

Forms required to file for Death with Dignity/Medical Aid in Dying: WA State Department of Health website: [Death with Dignity Forms for Patients and Providers | Washington State Department of Health](#)

REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- A. Initiative 1000/Washington Death with Dignity Act, codified as RCW 70.245
- B. Forms required to file for Death with Dignity/Medical Aid in Dying: WA State Department of Health website: [Death with Dignity Forms for Patients and Providers | Washington State Department of Health](#)
- C. Attending Physician Responsibilities under the Death with Dignity Act at RCW 70.245.040
- D. Death with Dignity Act Requirements, Chapter 246-978 WAC
- E. The Oregon Death with Dignity Act: A Guidebook for Health Care Professionals

****Note: policy must be published on the DOH Hospital and Confluence Health websites as updates occur.**

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
PolicyStat Administrator	Crista Davis: Regulatory Standards Coordinator	10/13/2026
CEO	Andrew Jones: Chief Executive	10/13/2026

	Officer	
VP	Kris Deyerle: VP General Counsel	9/29/2026
VP/Compliance Officer	Sarah Brown: VP Risk and Regulatory	9/29/2026
Director	Cherie Hanning: Patient Safety & Risk Management Director	9/29/2026
	Cherie Hanning: Patient Safety & Risk Management Director	9/29/2026

Standards

No standards are associated with this document