



DR. PABLO O. TORRE
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

RIVERSIDE MEDICAL CENTER, INC.



METRO PACIFIC HEALTH
THE HEART OF FILIPINO HEALTHCARE

DEPARTMENT: Total Quality Division		POLICY NUMBER: DPOTMH-MPP-TQD-DOCU-P003-(01)	
TITLE/DESCRIPTION: UPHOLDING PATIENT’S RELIGIOUS RIGHTS			
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 30, 2025	REVISION DUE: June 29, 2028	REPLACES NUMBER: DPOTMH-HW-P25	NO. OF PAGES: 1 of 5
APPLIES TO: Nursing Service Division, Medical Services Division		POLICY TYPE: Multi Disciplinary	

PURPOSE:

1. To provide guidelines in upholding patients' religious rights, beliefs and customs.
2. To accommodate the spiritual needs of the patient.

DEFINITIONS:

Right to Religious Belief - the patient has the right to refuse medical treatment or procedures which may be contrary to his religious beliefs, subject to the limitations described in the preceding subsection. It is provided that such a right shall not be imposed by parents upon their children who have not reached the legal age in a life-threatening situation as determined by the attending physician or the medical director of the facility.

Holy Communion - a practice within Christian traditions where the Eucharist is brought to a person who is unable to receive it at a regular church service due to illness or confinement.

Spiritual Counseling - is a form of therapy that integrates an individuals spiritual belief and practices counseling techniques to help them explore their spirituality, find meaning and promote healing.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick - this sacrament gives the grace of the Holy Spirit to those who are sick: by this grace the whole person is helped and saved, sustained by trust in God, and strengthened against the temptations of the Evil One and against anxiety over death. Thus the sick person is able not only to bear suffering bravely, but also to fight against it. A return to physical health may follow the reception of this sacrament if it will be beneficial to the sick person's salvation. If necessary, the sacrament also provides the sick person with the forgiveness of sins and the completion of Christian penance.

RESPONSIBILITY:

Chaplain, Pastor, Medical Doctors, Information Section, Staff Nurse, Guard on-duty, Nursing Supervisor

POLICY:

1. It is the policy of the Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital to respect the religious beliefs, practices, and customs of every patient. Henceforth, the management shall strive to provide every patient with the religious services that are most acceptable to him.
2. The Information Section shall have a telephone directory of the nearest parish and churches for Catholic and Non-catholic.
 - 2.1 For Non-catholic patients:





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2.1.1 The Nurse on-duty shall instruct the watcher and/or family of the patient to inform the station if they need or to visit their hospitalized loved one.

2.1.2 The Nurse on-duty shall inform the Nursing Supervisor of the request for a pastor.

3. In all emergency situations, such as death and/or dying, the nurse on duty shall notify the Chaplain and Nursing Supervisor as soon as possible.

4. The Nurse on duty shall ask the patient about his religious practices, such as: receiving Holy Communion, Spiritual Counseling, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Confession.

4.1 If the patient wants to receive Holy Communion:

4.1.1 The patient or watcher informs the station or the Nurse on-duty that he or she wants to receive Holy Communion.

4.1.2 The Nurse on-duty places the "Holy Communion" tag at the door knob of the patient's room who requested Holy Communion.

Note: The Holy Communion Tag that is placed on the doorknob outside the patient's room indicates that the patient wants to receive Holy Communion. This will help the lay ministers in identify those patients who want to receive Holy Communion.

4.2 If the patient needs Spiritual Counseling, Confession, and the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick, the patient or watcher informs the station or the Nurse on-duty.

4.2.1 If the patient is a Roman Catholic, the Nurse contacts the Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital's chaplain.

4.2.1.1 When the chaplain is on leave due to recollections and other pastoral activities, in his absence, he assigns another priest to relieve his post. The chaplain leaves his phone number (099884660645) to inform the reliever priest directly if there are sick calls, spiritual counseling, and/or confession.

4.2.1.2 If the patient has a particular priest in mind,

4.2.1.2.1 The patient or watcher gives the name of the priest to the Nurse on-duty.

4.2.1.2.2 The Nurse on-duty informs and asks for approval from his or her Supervisor.

4.2.1.2.3 Upon approval, the patient or watcher calls his or her preferred priest.

4.2.1.2.4 The Nurse on-duty calls and informs the Information Section regarding the





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special case and gives the name of the priest for identification.

4.2.1.2.5 The priest, upon arrival at the lobby, presents any valid identification card to the Guard on-duty for admittance.

4.2.2 For Non-Catholic Patients:

4.2.2.1 The patient or watcher informs the station or the Nurse on-duty about his spiritual needs.

4.2.2.2 The Nurse on-duty asks the patient or watcher if he knows of a pastor that would give him counseling. If Yes:

4.2.2.2.1 The patient or watcher gives the name of the pastor to the Nurse on-duty.

4.2.2.2.2 The Nurse on-duty informs and asks for approval from his or her Supervisor.

4.2.2.2.3 The patient or watcher calls his or her preferred pastor.

4.2.2.2.4 Once approved, the Nurse on-duty calls and informs the Information Section regarding the special case and gives the name of the pastor for identification.

4.2.2.2.5 The pastor, upon arriving at the lobby, presents any valid identification card to the Guard on-duty for admittance & informs Nurse on-duty.



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PROCEDURE (SOP): N/A
WORK INSTRUCTION: N/A
WORK FLOW: N/A
FORMS: N/A
EQUIPMENT: N/A
REFERENCES: N/A





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