

SUBJECT: End of Life Care	REFERENCE# 14.1.005
DEPARTMENT: Nursing	Page 1 of 2
APPROVED BY: CNO/CEO	EFFECTIVE: 12/9/2016
	REVISED: LASTED REVIEWED: 03/11/2022

Policy:

It is the policy of Ferry County Public Hospital District to establish values, principles and practices in the approach to the care of patients and residents who are terminally ill and whose death may be imminent.

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a standard for end of life care. The standard requires that care and comfort is given to patients and residents who are dying and whose death is handled with dignity and propriety and that their spiritual needs, rights and functions are observed.

Procedure:

1. Ensure that the resident/patient and those close to them will be treated with dignity and respect.
2. Provide privacy, room in a private room if available. Provide comfort for the family and friends: coffee, water, refreshments, seating, sleeping arrangements if able for the family to remain in the room if desired.
3. Ensure that the patient/resident's advance directive and wishes are honored.
4. Provide and procure all the care and support available to make the patient/resident comfortable, safe and as free from as much pain as possible.
5. RN, using the assessment, will develop an individualized care plan to include, but not limited to as appropriate:
 - a. Reduction and control of pain and discomfort
 - b. Reduce and control signs of restlessness, anxiety and agitation
 - c. Manage or control respiratory secretions
 - d. Manage or control nausea and vomiting
 - e. Maintain oral care
 - f. Manage or control elimination of urine and feces
 - g. Relieve pressure, reduce or manage pressure points and sores
 - h. Nutrition as appropriate
6. Staff will do routine, frequent rounding on end of life patients/residents and document observations and care.
7. Ensure that all the patient/resident's cultural and religious preferences are observed and assisted. Facilitate pastoral support per patient/resident and/or family wishes.
8. Consider Hospice referral and discuss with patient/resident's medical provider if appropriate.

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9. Staff shall work in partnership with the family and friends. Encourage to family and friends to share their feelings and offer support.

References: