

POL055 SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY**EXPECTED OUTCOME**

STAFF, PATIENTS AND VISITORS WILL NOT BE EXPOSED TO SMOKING WITHIN THE HOSPITAL'S FACILITIES OR GROUNDS.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

From 1 January 2015, smoking is banned at all Queensland public and private hospitals and health facilities, and for five metres beyond their boundaries. The legislation which was introduced on 1 January 2015 is the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 to Part 8 of the Amendment of Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998. These no smoking laws apply at all times, and to all staff and patient residential areas on healthcare facility land, and include the use of all smoking products, including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes).

POLICY

In the interest of health and safety and pursuant to Queensland Government's tobacco laws, smoking is not permitted within Toowong Private Hospital's facilities and grounds, and for five metres beyond the hospital's boundaries. This requirement applies to staff, patients, Medical Council members and visitors and to the use of all smoking products including regular cigarettes and devices commonly known as electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes).

To support the health and wellbeing of staff, patients, Medical Council members and visitors of Toowong Private Hospital and enable people to have the right to work and receive care in a smoke free environment in line with legislative requirements, Toowong Private Hospital has adopted the following strategies:

- Developing clinician skills and confidence to support patients managing nicotine withdrawal or contemplating quitting smoking. This includes providing training and information on:
 - Smoking cessation support such as brief intervention therapy and the 5As framework (Ask, Assess, Advise, Assist and Arrange)
 - Nicotine replacement therapy
 - The possible effects of smoking on medication
 - The effects of smoking cessation on mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety
- Informing patients of the no smoking requirements prior to being admitted to the Hospital
- Displaying signage and posters outlining Queensland Health's new tobacco laws and the Hospital's smoke free environment requirements
- Removing all outdoor designated smoking areas and ash trays
- Discouraging patients from bringing tobacco and other smoking products to the hospital
- Providing patients with access to nicotine replacement therapy whilst an inpatient
- Providing patients with individual and group support from nursing and allied health to help patients adjust to the smoke free environment of the hospital

- Ensuring any patient leave from the hospital has been granted with consideration of identified and documented risks to the individual and in accordance with the hospital's POL059 Patient Leave Policy, and requirements of the *Mental Health Act 2016* and Department of Immigration and Border Protection legislation
- Raising patient's awareness of community supports such as the Quitline (13 QUIT) service and various computer apps
- Encouraging all staff and members of the Medical Council to play a role in promoting and encouraging compliance with the smoking bans by informing others that the hospital and five metre buffer are smoke free and directing them to areas where smoking is permitted if necessary
- Encouraging staff who smoke to seek support to quit from their general practitioner, local pharmacist or trained counsellors at the Quitline 13 QUIT (13 7848)

For processes that support these strategies, refer to the PRO372 Smoke Free Environment Procedure available via Confluence.

REFERENCES/LINKS

Toowong Private Hospital will function in accordance with all relevant Legislation, Regulations, Industry Standards and Codes of Practice. TPH utilise the external Private Hospitals Association of Queensland (PHAQ) Matrix.

Access to related policies, forms, or other documents may be found by undergoing a Radix DM search by ID, Title, Library Group, document content or saving criteria.