

The Ethics of Spiritual Care: In the Healthcare Setting & Beyond

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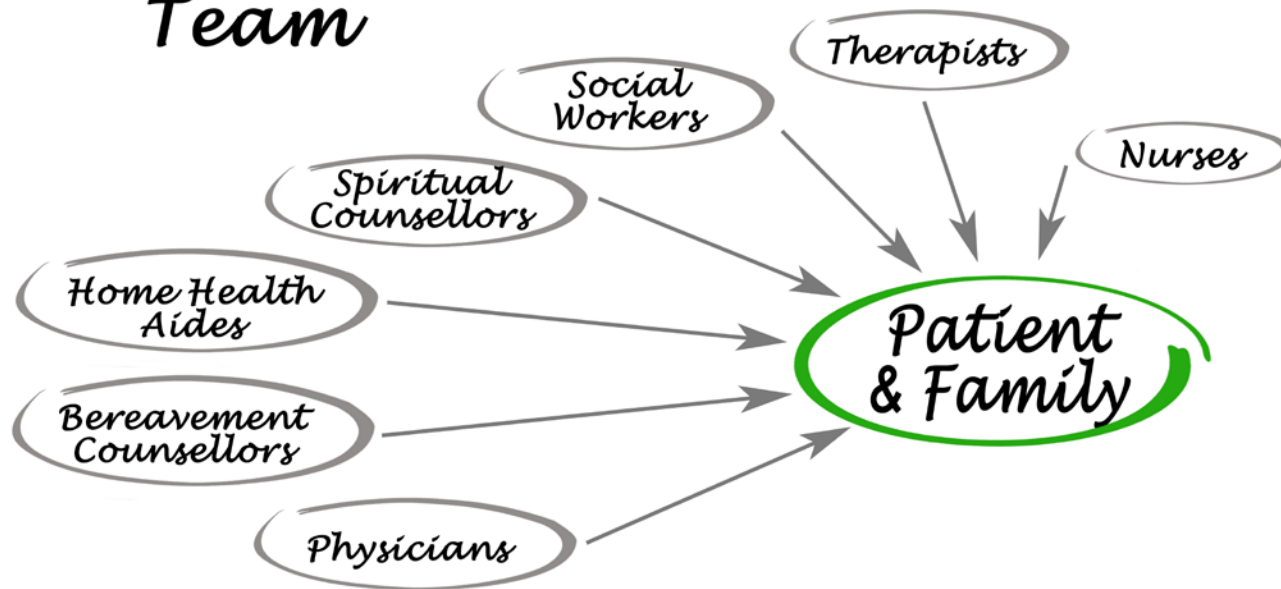
Why Spiritual Care Matters

- In suffering, people often search for meaning (V. Frankl)
- Promotes the development of therapeutic relationships
- Improves people's spiritual well-being, performance, quality of spiritual life
- Studies show that spiritual care is very important throughout the entire healing process
 - Shorter hospital stay
 - Improved pain management
 - Improved motivation to complete the tasks of healing
 - Valuable & positively received by patients not seeking spiritual care



Who Is Responsible For Spiritual Care

Interdisciplinary Team



Employ varied agencies

(White MH74)

Spiritual Care Generalists

(Robinson et al., 2016)

Human interactions
Processes
Environment

(The Beryl Institute Report, 2018)

Compassion & Empathy

(Forbes, 2018)



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Why Spiritual Care Is Best Delivered By Chaplains

Parish clergy's time is mostly dedicated to their parishioners

Most parish-based clergy have very little Knowledge about disease processes

Most parish-based clergy only minister to the members of their congregations

Seeking vs. Acceptance

There are many people who are not part of any faith community; 50% of Americans claim no church or religious affiliation

There are many religious organizations & types of faith communities in a complex Spiritual care environment



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Why Spiritual Care Is Best Delivered By Chaplains

Chaplains provide spiritual support to care recipients & hospital staff

Participation in ethics consultation

Chaplains provide timely visitation of patients upon admission

Trained to care for patients & families in end-of-life situations

Chaplains conduct spiritual assessments and develop spiritual screenings collaboratively with nurses

Appropriate referrals to IDT and clergy



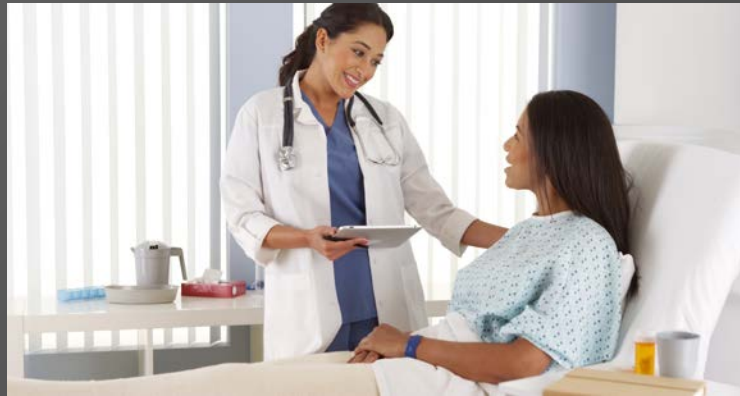
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THE PATIENT'S JOURNEY



ADMISSION



LENGTH OF STAY



TRANSITION



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admission

Spiritual Screening Tool

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.
1 Cor. 13:13



LOVE

Do you feel loving support by the people closest to you?

Y/N

*Specify _____

No- Triggers Priority Listing

HOPE

Do you feel hopeful about life?

Y/N

No- Triggers Consult

FAITH

Is faith important to you?

Y/N

Yes- Triggers another question:

Does it influence your medical decisions?

Y/N

Yes- Triggers Priority Listing

APC Code of Ethics | 110.11

The individual person possesses dignity & worth

APC Code of Ethics | 110.12

The spiritual dimension of a person is an essential part of an individual's striving for health, wholeness and meaning in life.

APC Code of Ethics | 130.42 & Joint Commission | PC.01.02.01

Referrals & Consultations, and IDT Relationships; screening



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length of stay



Spiritual Assessment Tool

He saw a large crowd and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.
Matt. 14:14



1. Religious & Spiritual Attitudes

2. Beliefs & Decision Making

3. Wholeness & Purpose

4. Religious & Spiritual Integrity

5. Patient & Family Support

High 

Moderate 

Low 

APC Code of Ethics | 130.52

Seek to represent the best interests of those served

Joint Commission | PC.01.02.01

Assessments and reassessments



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Spiritual Care Plan

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord... plans to give you hope and a future.

Jer. 29:11



Religious/Spiritual Need/s

Religious/Spiritual Intervention/s

Goals & Progression

APC Code of Ethics | 110.13

Spiritual care of persons is a critical aspect of total care

Joint Commission | PC 01.03.01

Planning of the patient's care

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Communication & collaboration
On spiritual needs of patients

IDT



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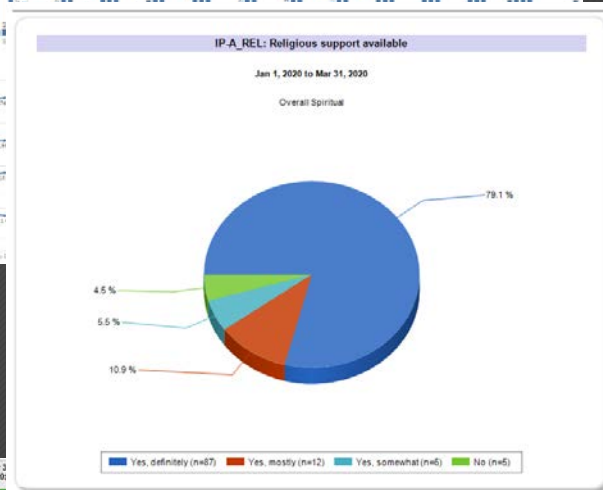
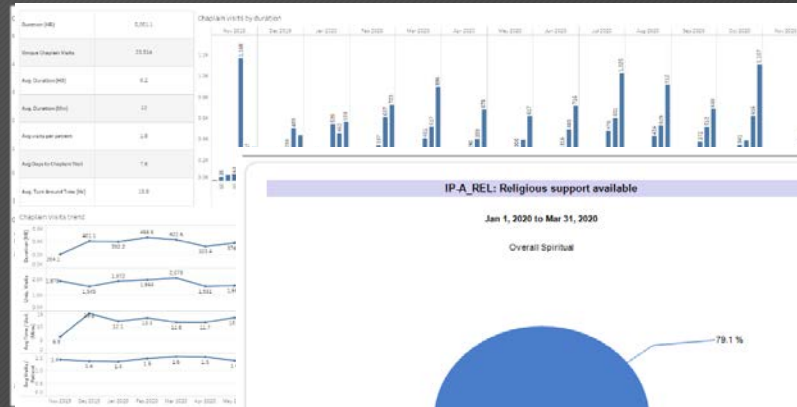
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Spiritual Dashboard

Service Best Practice

24 HR Patient Visitation

75th Percentile HCAHPS



| Focus | more | NRC 75th Percentile* | NRC 80th Percentile* | 12 Months | Qtr 3 2020 | Qtr 2 2020 | Qtr 1 2020 | Qtr 4 2019 | Qtr 3 2019 |
|---|------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Was religious/spiritual support available when you needed it? | | 73.2% | 77.9% | 73.4% | 86.0% | 87.1% | 79.1% | 89.8% | 80.6% |

Legend:
 Green - score is equal to or greater than the NRC 75th Percentile
 Yellow - score is less than the NRC 75th Percentile, but may not be significantly
 Red - score is significantly less than the NRC 75th Percentile
 ? - Warning: n-size is low!
 ! - Data is not final and subject to change
 PR - Percentile Rank

Joint Commission | PI.01.01.01 - PI.04.01.01, LD.03.02.01
 Continuous Quality Improvement & Informed decision making



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transition

Blessings & Patient/Parish Initiatives

I have planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase

1 Cor. 3:6



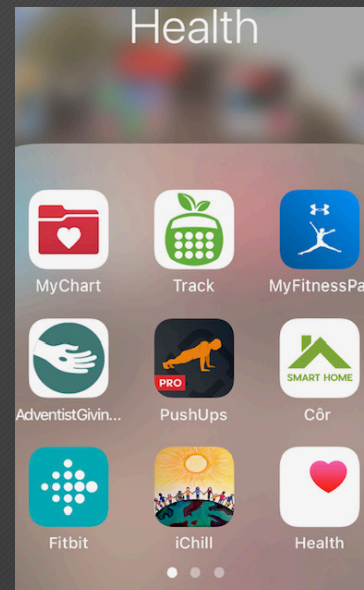
Transition Blessings



Chaplain - Patient/Parish -Pastor
relationship

Joint Commission | PC.04.01.01

Education or plan for ongoing R/S care



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