

Nelson Region Hospice Trust

**JOB DESCRIPTION: HOSPICE/PALLIATIVE
CARE NURSE**

RESPONSIBLE TO: CEO, Hospice & Palliative Care Services

FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS: Patients, their families and whanau
Team Leader IPU
Hospice & Administration staff and
Volunteers
General Practitioners
Palliative Care Specialist
Hospice Medical Officers
Allied Health Professionals
Nelson Marlborough District Health
Board staff

NELSON HOSPICE PHILOSOPHY:

The patient and family are actively supported and empowered to participate in their care and decisions regarding their care.

To assist patients to make the most of the life that remains and to ensure that patients die comfortably, with dignity and in their own homes if that is their wish.

To provide support and care for the family and close friends during the patient's illness and in bereavement.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE:

To provide professional patient and family centered palliative care to hospice patients and their families/ whanau to assist them to cope with a terminal illness.

KEY TASKS:

- 1. To complete a holistic assessment, develop and implement a plan of care in conjunction with the patient, which identifies their needs and provides appropriate intervention.**

Expected Results

That the delivery of hospice/palliative care is consistent with Hospice NZ standards and is individualised for each patient.

The patient and family are actively supported and empowered to participate in their care.

The care plan is developed in consultation with the patient and family/ whanau and provides clear management directions for nursing staff and members of the multidisciplinary team including discharge planning and expected outcomes.

2. To palliate symptoms to maximise quality of life for the patient and their family/ whanau.

Expected Results

Patient and family/ whanau autonomy in decisions affecting symptom control and quality of life is promoted and supported.

Symptom control issues are responded to promptly, interventions evaluated with the care co-ordinator and multidisciplinary team and adjusted as appropriate.

Staff demonstrates a high level of appropriate clinical skills and knowledge.

3. To provide a resource role for hospital staff and other health care providers in the community.

Expected Results

The Hospice nurse will display a high level of professional expertise appropriate to the service area and the community; and other health care providers will have access to specialist palliative care advice as required.

Effective communication with staff and other health professionals, both internal and external.

4. To participate in the Nelson Region Hospice Service Quality Improvement and Staff Development programmes.

Expected Results

Staff maintain own competencies and professional development and are committed to providing quality care within best practice models.

Maintain comprehensive knowledge of legislation, legal and professional issues affecting nursing practice.

Service standards, objectives and philosophy will be met at all times.

Actively participates in audit /peer review and education sessions.

Is committed to achieving the organisation's goals and the business plan.

To assist in the review and update of Quality Improvement on a regular basis.

Participates in individual performance appraisal based on agreed personal and organisational goals.

5. To facilitate the development and maintenance of an integrated hospice/palliative care service.

Expected Results

Attendance at weekly multidisciplinary meeting if required and rostered on duty.

Ensure timely and relevant documentation for all appropriate organisational and clinical record systems.

Accurate completion of clinical work sheets and patient medical records. Accurate documentation in the PalCare system.

Participate in monthly staff meetings.

Takes an active role in the organisation by:

- participating in committees
- reading and actioning minutes, memos and circulars

Ensures the most efficient utilisation of resources.

6. To ensure safe practice

Expected Results

The collection of data complies with professional and statutory requirements.

Adheres to all organisational policy and procedures including Health & Safety and Infection Control.

Report any unsafe conditions or practice.

You may be required to perform other duties/tasks not detailed in the job description.

I have read and understood this job description and agree to carry out the responsibilities and other duties as requested.

Employee: _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____

NELSON REGION HOSPICE TRUST

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

NELSON HOSPICE/PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICE

This service provides hospice/palliative care for the Nelson region. This includes Murchison, Golden Bay, Motueka and the Waimea Plains through to Gentle Annie

REMUNERATION

As per the Nelson Region Hospice Trust Collective contract for Nurses

HOURS OF WORK

As per employment letter

CONFIDENTIALITY

Patient confidentiality must be maintained at all times

VARIATION

These conditions may be amended by mutual agreement at any time by the CEO

Do not detach

To be completed by the appointee

I have read and accepted the above conditions of appointment.

Signed. _____ Date _____