



anf policy

australian nursing federation

non-smoking work environment

It is the policy of the Australian Nursing Federation that:

1. It is the responsibility of individual nurses and midwives to:
 - 1.1 familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, the non smoking policy of the employing agency;
 - 1.2 work with the occupational health and safety officer and/or representative to develop, review and implement a non smoking work environment policy, if one is not already in place;
 - 1.3 ensure patients/residents/clients, staff and visitors adhere to the non smoking policy and refrain from smoking within the confines of the health, community health or aged care facility;
 - 1.4 inform patients/residents/clients about the risk of smoking;
 - 1.5 facilitate the availability of appropriate literature, programs and counselling to assist smokers to cease smoking; and
 - 1.6 support colleagues and patients/residents/clients to cease smoking.
2. It is the responsibility of hospital/health agencies to:
 - 2.1 provide and maintain a safe, smoke free working environment;
 - 2.2 prominently display and publicise the 'no smoking policy' so that all staff, patients/residents/clients and visitors are adequately informed about the policy, the risks of passive smoking and the penalties that could be applied for breaches;
 - 2.3 use signs to indicate that smoking is banned to benefit patients/residents/clients staff, visitors, service users and providers;
 - 2.4 recognise that smokers required to cease smoking may experience withdrawal and require the support of colleagues and management;
 - 2.5 encourage and offer assistance to employees by sponsoring attendance at courses which assist smokers to cease smoking with paid time off;
 - 2.6 provide facilities and resources for health promotion activities related to smoking cessation and the effects of passive smoking;
 - 2.7 provide adequate disposal facilities for cigarette ash and butts at entrances to the facility;
 - 2.8 advise all job applicants of the non smoking policy with which all employees must comply;
 - 2.9 equip the Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee to deal with unresolved grievances involving smoking and address any other issues associated with occupational health and safety; and
 - 2.10 ensure no tobacco or accessories are sold on health, aged care or community health facilities.

3. It is the responsibility of government to:
 - 3.1 legislate for and enforce non smoking work environments;
 - 3.2 promote the benefits of non smoking work environments;
 - 3.3 provide assistance to agencies to disseminate educational material about the hazards of smoking; and
 - 3.4 assist employers to support nurses and midwives, patients/residents/clients to cease smoking.

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