



Bundaberg Health Service District Policy & Procedure Manual

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Section: Leadership and Management
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Name of Manual: Bundaberg Health Service District

TITLE: Suspected Illicit Substances

DESCRIPTION: Action to be taken by staff where there is any suspicion or questions relating to illicit drugs within the Health Service in regard to visitors and patients/clients.

TARGET AUDIENCE: All Staff

AUTHORISED BY DISTRICT MANAGER

Name: P Leck

Signature: _____

Date: _____

STANDARD

ACIS IQulP Standard Leadership and Management 1.2.1

OUTCOME

Staff will know how to deal with suspected illicit substances relating to visitors and patients/clients.

POLICY

Visitors

Any person who is not at the hospital for care and treatment and/or may be suspected of supplying substances suspected to be contrary to the care and treatment of patients, shall be required to leave the Health Service premises when asked to do so by any person authorised by the Bundaberg Health Service District.

Patients

If a substance suspected to be an illicit substance is believed to be in the possession of a patient, staff members can ask the patient to remove the substance or dispose of the substance in the presence of two staff members.

If the patient refuses to have the substance removed, then it is appropriate to advise a senior member of staff

No patient will be automatically reported to the police. This action will be taken only when it is considered necessary by senior staff following discussion with the patient's Medical Officer.

Authorised Officer

Staff who are authorised to request a visitor or patient who has been discharged to leave the hospital are:

- District Manager
- Director of Nursing
- Director of Corporate Services
- Hospital Medical Superintendent/Director of Medical Services
- Director Community Health Services
- Manager Integrated Mental Health Services
- Any staff member delegated by an Executive Director to perform this role