

## Management of Nicotine Dependence and Smoking Cessation

**Policy Number** 5.155

**Policy Function** Safe Practivce Environment

**Issue Date** 09 April 2021

**Summary** This policy enables Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network clinical staff to support patients smokers and non-smokers make informaed and supported choices regarding exposure to tobacco and smoking cessation.

**Responsible Officer** Executive Director Clinical Operations

**Applicable Sites**

- Administration Centres
- Community Sites (e.g. Court Liaison Service, Community Integration Team, etc.)
- Health Centres (Adult Correctional Centres or Police Cells)
- Health Centres (Youth Justice NSW)
- Long Bay Hospital
- Forensic Hospital

**Previous Issue(s)** Policy 5.155 (December 2017)

**Change Summary**

- Edits to reflect current clinical guidance and practice

**HPRM Reference** POLJH/5155

**Authorised by** Chief Executive, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

## 1. Preface

Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network (The Network) is committed to improving the health of patients in correctional centres, Youth Justice Centres and the Forensic Mental Health Network, as well as minimising the health effects of those incarcerated. Tobacco smoking is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in Australia and is a major risk factor for morbidity and mortality related to chronic disease. Prevalence of tobacco use amongst our patient population is much higher than the broader community.

The Network recognises the impact of smoking on the health of the custodial and forensic populations and as such is committed to providing smoking cessation support so that patients can make informed choices regarding exposure to tobacco smoke and smoking cessation.

In Correctional and Youth Justice Centres, the Network delivers smoking cessation support in an environment where tobacco policy is determined by another organisation (Corrective Services NSW or Youth Justice). In the Forensic Hospital, the Network delivers cessation support to reflect NSW policy and guidelines reflecting clinical best practice in a smoke free environment. The Network therefore structures smoking cessation support in a manner that is adaptive to external changes to the policy environment.

## 2. Policy Content

### 2.1. Mandatory Requirements

- Nursing and medical staff within the Network must be aware of their responsibilities to support patients when ceasing smoking.
- The (Revised October 2020) [The Network's Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Nicotine Dependence & Smoking Cessation](#) form the basis for all clinical interventions to support patients.
- The guidelines are to be utilised in:
  - Adult Correctional Centres
  - Youth Justice Centres (Adolescents)
  - Long Bay Hospital
  - Forensic Hospital
  - Police and Court Cell Complexes

### 2.2. Implementation - Roles & Responsibilities

#### Service Director Population Health

Oversee smoking cessation health promotion and health literacy strategies and interventions to support cessation whilst in custody and on release **Nurse Managers and Nurse Unit Managers**

- Ensure staff comply with the [Network's Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Nicotine Dependence & Smoking Cessation](#).

## Medical Officers, Registered Nurses and Enrolled Nurses

- Responsible for complying with the Network's Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Smoking Cessation and Nicotine Dependence and policies.

## 3. Procedure Content

### 3.1. Scope of Practice

Clinical staff must only administer Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) as per the *Network's Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Smoking Cessation and Nicotine Dependence*. Nursing staff should refer any patient to a Medical Officer if they wish to seek further advice on the provision of NRT to a patient.

### 3.2. Health Records Requirements

All NRT must be recorded within the Long Stay Medication Chart/ National Inpatient Medication Chart for adult or Nurse-Initiated Treatment Chart/National Inpatient Medication Chart for adolescents

## 4. Definitions

### Must

Indicates a mandatory action to be complied with.

### Should

Indicates a recommended action to be complied with unless there are sound reasons for taking a different course of action.

## 5. Legislation and Related Documents

Network Policies and  
Procedure

[Adolescent Nurse Initiated Medication Protocols](#)

[Adult Nurse Initiated Medication Protocols](#)

[Clinical Guidelines for the Management of Nicotine Dependence & Smoking Cessation](#)

[Forensic Hospital Procedure NRT Management of Nicotine Dependant Patients in the Forensic Hospital.](#)

Nurse Initiated Treatment Chart (for adolescent patients only)

NSW MoH Policy

[PD2015\\_003](#) NSW Health Smoke-free Health Care Policy 2015



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Directives and Guidelines [SHPN: 150016](#) *Managing Nicotine Dependence: A Guide for Health Staff 2015*

Forms [1.231](#) *Health Problem Notification Form (Adults)*