

CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: END OF LIFE

ANNUAL REVIEW MONTH: May

RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW: Chief Medical Officer

LAST REVISION DATE: July 2009

POLICY

Central State Hospital provides an appropriate continuum of continued care throughout the life cycle. This policy provides a means by which the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) can identify a client who is nearing the end of his or her life and whose care needs to focus on palliative and symptomatic treatment. Implementation of palliative and symptomatic treatment will improve the care of these clients by incorporating their cultural, spiritual, medical, nursing and social needs in a comfortable environment that supports their dignity and quality of life. This process involves the client, family and advocates from the time the need for this care is identified.

In consultation with the client, family, advocates and the IDT, the client will be put on End of Life status and the procedure will be implemented when the attending medical staff determines that the client has a terminal disease process. Terminal disease process is generally defined as having a life expectancy of 6 months or less. Once this prognosis is determined, the focus of treatment moves from restorative to palliative. If the IDT feels that, due to the degree of debilitation of the client, the implementation of this procedure End of Life care is warranted prior to the determination that the life expectancy of the client is 6 months or less, the IDT may consult the Clinical Director for approval. The IDT will review the End of Life Plan as needed.

APPROVED:

This policy has been approved by the CEO and CMO in October, 2009.