

 <p><b>BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD HAUORA A TOI</b></p> <p><b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS PROTOCOL</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS PATIENTS – PROVIDING CARE STANDARDS</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Policy 1.2.5 Protocol 1</b></p>
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## OBJECTIVE

When appropriate Jehovah's Witness patients will be managed in accordance with their religious beliefs.

## STANDARDS TO BE MET

1. Staff will respect the beliefs of the patient and acknowledge their right to refuse blood products as with any other medical procedure. If the patient has a Healthcare Directive (HCD) in relation to blood products place a copy in the patient's health record.
2. If the patient does not have a HCD they should be encouraged to complete one.
3. Patients must be fully informed of the risks associated with their refusal to receive blood products. This discussion and their refusal to accept blood products is to be fully documented in the patient's health record.
4. Any available alternatives to blood products are to be fully discussed with the patient. Alternative blood products are not publically funded and will be provided at the patient's cost.
5. The patient should be encouraged to have a support person present during these discussions. This may include family, whanāu, guardian, Minister or the local Jehovah's Witness Hospital Liaison, who can be contacted via Telephony.
6. In the case of children, where a parent or guardian refuses a transfusion, further discussion will be sought, and options explored. In life threatening situations children will be transfused if the clinician believes it is in the best interests of the child. The Bay of Plenty District Health Board (BOPDHB) will support the Clinicians in this decision.
7. If a patient is unable to communicate because of injury or illness, every endeavour will be made to ascertain their wishes and establish if they have a HCD. If it is not possible for their wishes to be determined then care will be provided pursuant to policy 1.1.1 Informed Consent.
8. If a Jehovah's Witness patient is transfused under these circumstances then all necessary support will be offered. In the first instance an offer will be made to contact their Minister or the Jehovah's Witness Hospital Liaison. If staff or the patient have any questions in relation to blood products they should contact a member of the local Jehovah's Witness Hospital Liaison.
9. Clinical staff can contact the local Jehovah's Witness Hospital Liaison directly via Telephony.
10. If the patient refuses blood products the refusal of blood products section of the Informed Consent Form must be completed.

## ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.5 Jehovah's Witness Patients – Providing Care
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.5 protocol 2 Jehovah's Witness Patients – Treatment of Patients in Need of Alternative Blood Replacement Therapy
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.5 protocol 3 Jehovah's Witness Patients – Treatment of Children in Need of Alternative Blood Replacement Therapy

<p>Issue Date: Apr 2018 Review Date: Apr 2020</p>	<p>Page 1 of 2 Version No: 5</p>	<p>NOTE: The electronic version of this document is the most current. Any printed copy cannot be assumed to be the current version.</p>
<p>Protocol Steward: General Counsel</p>	<p>Authorised by: Medical Director</p>	

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- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Perioperative Service protocol PERIOP.J1.1 Guidance - Jehovah's Witness Patients (Adults and Children) - Trauma or Acute Bleeding Management
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Perioperative Service protocol PERIOP.J2.1 Guidance - Jehovah's Witness Patients (Adults and Children) - Elective Surgery Management
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.1.1 Informed Consent
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board policy 1.2.6 Refusal of Blood Products
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Informed Consent form (7752)
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.B2.1 Blood Products - Understanding Regarding Refusal of Blood Products for Minors
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.H.1 Health Care Directive
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board Form FM.J1.1 Jehovah's Witness Patients - Providing Care

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