

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
PASTORAL CARE POLICY MANUAL
COMMUNION**

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Policy: Pastoral Care Services will provide Communion upon a patient’s request if the patient does not have a clergy person, or the clergy person is not available, or the patient specifically states his/her preference for the Chaplain to provide the service.

Purpose: To assure that communion is available to those who request it.

Procedure: After receiving the request, the Chaplain will discuss with the patient whether his or her clergy, or a clergy from the patient’s own faith group, if any, can be involved.

A communion kit, unfermented wine (grape juice) and unleavened bread (crackers) are kept in the Pastoral Care office.

The Chaplain first confers with nurse regarding NPO status or swallowing problems, and to assure privacy without the disruption of essential medical services. At the conclusion of the service, the Chaplain will documented in the patient’s chart.