

Environmental Policy

1.0 Purpose:

The Cura Day Hospitals Group (CURA) believes that achieving environmental sustainability in our healthcare sector is essential to improving the functioning of all our hospitals.

Enhancing environmental sustainability, through reducing carbon emissions, limiting waste, and managing resources efficiently, will deliver better outcomes for patients, provide greater staff satisfaction and pride as well as provide economic benefits and broader social benefits.

Improving CURA's environmental sustainability will reduce the overall environmental impact of our sector and ensure our hospitals are better equipped to support our patients in the future by helping to reduce the associated health impacts of poor environmental outcomes such as climate change.

To achieve our commitment, engagement at all levels across our hospital network is critical for success and will require change. Our values are achievable, clear and accountable to reduce our environmental footprint.

2.0 Scope:

CURA's Vision is to lead and take action to become a champion of environmental sustainability in the small hospital and day hospital sector in Australia.

3.0 Responsibility

All Employees

3.0 Definitions

Environmentally Sustainable Health Organisations: The World Health Organisation defines an environmentally sustainable health system as one that "improves, maintains or restores health, while minimising negative impacts on the environment and leveraging opportunities to restore and improve it, to the benefit of the health and wellbeing of current future generations".

Facilities: means a hospitals or facilities within the CURA network of hospitals

Sustainability: Means the ability of something to continue over time. Environmental sustainability is only one element of this, being defined as "the quality of causing little or no damage to the environment and therefore able to continue for a long time". In business and accounting, sustainability efforts often comprise a 'triple bottom line' of economic, social and environmental sustainability.

4.0 Policy

We Cura Day Hospitals Group Pty Ltd are dedicated to developing, producing, providing and applying our services in an environmentally sustainable way, by doing so, we strive to continually improve our environmental performance.

We are committed to business practices that promote the protection of the environment and the minimisation of adverse environmental impacts.

We give top priority to the safety of our patients and employees. We follow these key principles along our value chain:

1. Compliance and Management Systems

- We comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- We apply appropriate standards and procedures for our environmental management systems.
- We assess potential environmental risks and mitigation strategies as well as opportunities.

2. Environmental Performance

- We effectively manage the efficient use of energy, water and raw materials.
- We adopt programs and initiatives aimed at reducing our environmental footprint, including emissions and waste.
- We assess our environmental impact regularly and are committed to developing appropriate targets for our environmental practices.
- We expect our suppliers to comply with our environmental standards as defined in our Global Supplier Code of Conduct.
- We promote collaboration and partnership on topics relating to environmental sustainability.

3. Innovation

- We foster an open-minded culture for innovation with environmental benefits.
- We promote the development and use of environmentally sustainable products, processes and services.
- We advocate sharing best-practices and collaboration across sectors.

4. Communication

- We communicate our progress in the area of environmental sustainability to our stakeholders.
- We foster the awareness and involvement of key stakeholders in environmental issues.

6.0 Useful Additional Reading

The following resources provide practical advice for health facilities on reducing their environmental footprint:

Global Green and Healthy Hospitals: <https://www.greenhospitals.net/>

Green Health Challenges: <https://www.greenhospitals.net/about-green-health-challenges/>

Hospitals without Harm: <https://noharm-global.org/>

Doctors for the Environment practical guide for doctors: <https://www.dea.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/DEA-Sustainable-Hospitals---Practical-Assistance---05-18.pdf>

UK Sustainable Development Unit 'How To'

Guides: <https://www.sduhealth.org.uk/resources/practical-guides-and-briefings/how-to-guides.aspx>

7.0 Resources

1. Fresenius Medical Care Asia Pacific, Global Environment Policy, Version 1 October 2021

2. Strategic document [Internet]. Copenhagen: WHO Europe, 2017 [cited 2019 Jan 15]. Available from: http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/341239/ESHS_Revised_WHO_web.pdf?ua=1
3. Malik A et al. The carbon footprint of Australian health care. *The Lancet Planetary Health* 2018;2(1):27-35.
4. Cambridge Dictionary. Sustainability. [Internet] 2019 [Updated 2019; cited 2019 Jan 22]; Available from: <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/sustainability>