

## Appendix 2

This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed. It is posted as supplied by the authors.

Appendix to: Thomas RL, Zubair MY, Hayes B, Ashby MA. Goals of care: a clinical framework for limitation of medical treatment. *Med J Aust* 2014; 201: 452-455. doi: 10.5694/mja14.00623.



completed.

# MEDICAL GOALS OF CARE (GOC) PLAN

 TASMANIAN HEALTH ORGANISATION

 North
 North West

 South

PT ID										
FAMIL	y name						D.	O.B		
OTHER NAMES			BEL					S	EX	
ADDRI	ESS		V						IARITAL TATUS	
								R	EL.	

	T176800
	FT1

DIAGNOSIS:			
NO LIMITATION OF TREATMENT:	Hospital	Community	
A.The goal of care is CURATIVE or RESTORATIVE. Treatment aim is PROLONGING LIFE			
$\square$ For CPR and all appropriate life-sustaining treatments ———		CODE BLUE	For full resuscitation
LIMITATION OF MEDICAL TREATMENT:			
<ul> <li>Patient has an advanced care directive and / or has requested the following treatment limitations:</li> <li>Please specify:</li> </ul>			
<b>B.</b> The goal of care is <b>CURATIVE</b> or <b>RESTORATIVE</b> with limitations:	For CODE BLUE and MET calls		
□ NOT FOR CPR but is for all respiratory support measures →		and MET Cans	For treatment and
NOT FOR CPR or INTUBATION but is for other active management		For MET calls NOT for CODE BLUE	transfer to hospital
C. The goal of care is PALLIATIVE. Treatment aim is quality of life		MET call □ YES	Contact GP for
NOT FOR CPR OR INTUBATION     Specific notes:		MET call □ NO	planning
<ul> <li>D. The goal of care is COMFORT DURING THE DYING PROCESS</li> <li>NOT FOR CPR or INTUBATION</li> </ul>	For terminal care NOT for CODE BLUE NOT for MET		
Reason for limitation of medical treatment:		medical grounds	patient wishes
		patient	person responsible

This form is to communicate the medical decision for appropriate treatment goals of care for this patient. Chose A, B, C or D. If changes are made, this form must be crossed through, marked void and a new form

This form is endorsed for ambulance transfer, and for the home or care facility.

Abbreviation key: CPR = cardio-pulmonary resuscitation

**PRINT DOCTOR'S NAME:** 

GP / consultant responsible::

SIGNATURE:

**DESIGNATION:** 

DATE: DD / MM / YYYY

GP / consultant informed:  $\Box$  YES  $\Box$  NO

MET = medical emergency team

GP = general practitioner

## PROCEDURE FOR COMPLETING A GOALS OF CARE (GOC) FORM

#### MEDICAL ASSESSMENT

A clinical evaluation of the patient's situation to one of the three goals of care categories: curative / restorative, palliative or dying (terminal). The following may be helpful to ask, especially if limitations are being considered (after MJA 2005; 183:230-1):

- I. Is the diagnosis correct?
- 2. Does the patient have capacity and not wish to have certain or all treatments, or if lacking capacity, has an advance directive or person responsible stating this?
- 3. Is medical treatment likely to prolong life or improve quality of life? Does the treatment carry a far greater risk of complications than possible benefits?
- 4. Has sufficient time elapsed to be reasonably confident that there is no reasonable prospect of substantial improvement or recovery?
- 5. Should another medical opinion be obtained?
- 6. Has the patient or the person responsible been advised of the above? Have they had a chance to express their opinions?
- 7. Has the patient's general practitioner been involved?

### IMPLEMENTATION

- I. Tick the box on the form that best describes the goals of care for the patient at this time.
  - A. **CURATIVE** or **RESTORATIVE** if no treatment limitations are required tick box A. Refusal of a single treatment, such as blood products, in the context of otherwise full active treatment should be documented in the first line under limitations of medical treatment.
  - B. **CURATIVE or RESTORATIVE** with limitations If in hospital, limitations to code blue or MET calls can be further documented. If in the community, the patient is for active treatment and transfer to a hospital if appropriate.
  - C. **PALLIATIVE** The treatment aim is quality of life. If in hospital limitations to MET calls can be further documented. If in the community the GP can be contacted for further direction in management.
  - D. **DYING** The treatment aim is comfort while the patient is dying. The prognosis is hours to days.
- 2. The details of the GOC discussions should be clearly documented in the patient's current progress notes.
- 3. The ultimate responsibility for treatment decisions including cessation of life-prolonging medical treatment and deployment of palliative and terminal care is a medical one and not the responsibility of the patient or person responsible.
- 4. The GOC form should not be completed by an intern.
- 5. The completed GOC form is filed in the current admission record, in the alerts section.
- 6. If the GOC change, the old form should be crossed out, marked VOID and a new form signed.
- 7. On discharge, a copy of the form can be sent with the patient or to the GP with the discharge summary if appropriate.
- 8. On discharge, the GOC form is scanned into the alerts section of the Digital Medical Record.
- 9. The Tasmanian Ambulance Service will recognise and act in accordance to the GOC form.
- 10. General practitioners or specialists may complete a GOC plan for ongoing care in the community and this form can be sent with the patient to the hospital if required.
- II. Day patients who are low risk are not required to have a GOC form completed.