

# Provision of Personal Intimate Care: 8 Guiding Principles Webinar March 31 2022

**Provision of Personal Intimate Care: Guiding Principles:**  
Schedule V no. 4 Health Care Act 2007, Regulations 2013.

Marie Kehoe-O'Sullivan  
National Disability Specialist, Quality Improvement



# **Why Guiding Principles?**

**Designated Centres required by Schedule V of the Regulations to have all 21 local policies developed in order to register with HIQA. These must be revised regularly to stay up to date with current international best practice and evidence.**



# **Development of Guiding Principles**

**Working Group established**

**Engagement with people whom we support**

**Literature review and validation using AGREE tool**

**Identification of set of Guiding Principles**

**Audit Tool**

**Impact Assessment Tool**

**Sign off by Independent Governance Group**



# **Focus of Today's Presentation**

## **Provision of Personal Intimate Care No. 4 Schedule V Policies**



# Table of Contents

**Introduction**

**Preventing the Need for Restrictions Guiding Principles**

**References**

## **Appendices**

**I Impact Assessment Tool**

**II Audit Tool**

**III Verification of Literature using AGREE Tool**



# What is Personal Intimate Care?

Intimate -

- Affects the body
- Personal hygiene which may involved contact with sexual parts of the body
- Examples – dressing/undressing, help with the toilet, changing incontinence or sanitary wear, bathin/showering, administration/inserting pessaries/enemas



# What is Personal Intimate Care?

Personal -

- Support that is less intimate
- Examples - Skin care, supported eating, haircare, shaving, dental care, applying deodorant



# 1. Choice

- Adults have the right to make their own choices in relation to all aspects of their life including decisions around their personal intimate care needs.
- Staff members should provide all necessary support to enable individuals to make choices in this area so as to maximise the amount of control people have over their care.
- This includes choice of whom the person wished to receive support from.





## 2. Dignity and Privacy

Staff members will support individuals with their personal intimate care in a respectful manner which enhances the dignity of the individual and upholds their right to privacy.



### **3. Culturally Appropriate Support**

Staff members will seek to establish the culturally specific needs and preferences of people from minority ethnic communities with respect to the personal intimate care.



## 4. Independence

Staff members will provide appropriate support to enable individuals to develop the psycho-motor and social skills necessary to self-care in relation to practical personal intimate care tasks.



## 5. Same Gender Care

- It is accepted that it is generally preferable for the same gender to provide intimate care but recognises that this may not always be possible and/or the person may have a different request.
- Every effort should be made to accommodate the person's choices on who provides intimate care.



## 6. Personal Intimate Care Plan

Every person who requires personal intimate care will have a full assessment of their needs carried out using a collaborative approach that includes the person, their circle of support (if appropriate) and staff resulting in a documented Personal Intimate Care Plan being put in place.



# 7. Training

Organisations must promote a learning environment that values the role of staff in the provision of personal intimate care and ensures that staff are appropriately trained in providing intimate care.



# 8. Sexual Expression

- Within an organisational learning culture, organisations should encourage dialogue around situations where persons become sexually aroused during the provision of intimate care, with appropriate guidance developed.
- This should be done in a way that respects the dignity of individuals and supports staff to continue providing the appropriate care.



# Links to Documents

1. [National Safeguarding Policy](#)
2. [Provision of Intimate Care Guiding Principles](#)





# Links to Related HIQA Guidance

1. [Guidance on a Human Rights-based Approach in Health and Social Care Services | HIQA](#)
2. [Supporting people's autonomy: a guidance document | HIQA](#)



# Panelists

1. **Fiona Weldon** (supported by Eileen Daly) – Independent Living Movement of Ireland
2. **Amy Hayward** – Social Care Lead, St. John of Gods
3. **Marie Tighe** – Project Manager, HSE National Office for Human Rights and Equality Policy

## Interviewer

**Nicole Lam** – Guidance Development and Research Lead, HSE Disabilities Quality Improvement



# Thank you all for attending!

Please complete the survey evaluation that you will be sent immediately following the webinar. This will help us to improve future webinars!

