I have a religious faith – what can you offer?
If you wish we can contact your church or faith group leader or we can visit on their behalf if you stay a considerable distance from your hospital.

If you belong to the Roman Catholic or Scottish Episcopal/Anglican Churches and have any sacramental needs, we have designated chaplains who are available to support you in this regard.

Your faith might require you to use a special diet or a prayer mat or you may wish someone to say some prayers with you. You might need a sacred text or a religious book. Chaplains can help with these things.

Chaplaincy availability
Each ward has a designated chaplain who visits there on a regular basis. However there is always a chaplain who is on-call 24 hours a day, every day. The ward staff will be able to access the on-call chaplain for you.

How to contact the chaplains
Chaplains do not automatically know who is in hospital. You should have been asked on admission whether you would like to see a chaplain or whether your name can appear on a list that the chaplains have access to. However if you are unsure if you were asked these questions or your circumstances have changed and you would now like to see a chaplain, you can either:

• Ask a member of the ward staff to contact a chaplain by phoning ext 53316.
• Ask a relative to contact a chaplain phoning 01224 553316.
• Ask anyone to e-mail chaplaincy department at nhsg.chaplaincy@nhs.net.
• Fill in the reply slip attached to this leaflet and ask a member of staff to forward it to the chaplaincy department.

Worship opportunities
On many sites healthcare chaplains conduct a short service (usually on a Sunday) for patients, relatives, visitors and staff. Ask the ward staff to contact the chaplain to find out more details. Patients come dressed as they are and remain seated throughout the services.
Chaplains
We, as healthcare chaplains, are here to offer care and support for patients, relatives and staff. We are here for those with or without religious belief.

A chaplain will:
- Listen and be alongside you.
- Respect each individual’s unique life experience, thoughts and beliefs.
- Offer you friendship and support.
- Keep your information confidential.

A chaplain will not:
- Preach at you and be judgemental.
- Push religion at you.
- Visit too long.

Why should I want to see a chaplain?
You may have something that worries you, or bothers you or something you are thankful for. Chaplains can help in all these things. People who are ill often ask themselves serious questions about life and death, sometimes it helps to have someone alongside to help you think things through – someone with the time to listen.

Chapels in the larger hospitals
The chapel is available to anyone who would like “time out” from a busy and sometimes noisy hospital. The chapel is available to anyone of faith or with no faith at all. You might want to do some thinking on your own. You might wish to pray, to cry or just be silent with yourself or another person.

The chapel is a good place for all of this and most are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Each chapel is clearly signposted, as are the chaplains’ offices.

Would you like a chaplain to visit you?
Would you like us to inform your church or faith group that you are in hospital?

Please ask a member of staff to forward this tear off slip to the chaplaincy department.

Would you like a chaplain to visit you?
☐ Yes  ☐ No

Would you like us to tell your church/faith group that you are in hospital?
☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes please supply relevant information on the next page.

NHSG Chaplaincy Service complies with the Data Protection Act and will only hold your information for spiritual care purposes and will not share your details with anyone without your consent.