What is a *Generic Chaplain*?

Some thoughts from NHS Grampian
Generic

• shared by, typical of or relating to a whole group of similar things, rather than to any particular thing

• any product, as a type of food, drug, or cosmetic commonly marketed under a brand name, that is sold in a package without a brand.
Unbranded.....but

- Recognised by their own faith community
- Experienced in pastoral care
- Delivering spiritual care in a secular healthcare setting.
Why?

Religious care alone does not meet the wider spiritual needs of the non-religious patient. Traditional denominational and religious models of chaplaincy will not fit into the spiritual plurality of contemporary Scotland.

(What do Chaplains do? Mowat and Swinton 2005)
Spiritual Care
Spiritual Care Initiative

- Scottish Executive Health Department
  HDL (2002) 76 *Spiritual Care in NHS Scotland*
- Every Health Board has a “Spiritual Care Policy”
- Head of Department
- Spiritual Care Committee
- Senior Manager
- Training and Development Unit
Spiritual Care Policy

• NHS Grampian is committed to providing holistic healthcare which is responsive to the physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual needs of its patients. Appropriate spiritual, pastoral and religious care will be offered to patients, their relatives and carers and to staff. This care is available to people with or without specified religious beliefs.

NHS Grampian Spiritual Care Policy (Revised 2005)
Spiritual Care

- **Religious care** is given in the context of shared religious beliefs, values, liturgies and lifestyle of a faith community.

- **Spiritual care** is usually given in a one-to-one relationship, is completely person-centred and makes no assumptions about personal conviction or life orientation.

- **Spiritual care is not necessarily religious. Religious care, at its best, should always be spiritual.**

Spiritual Care in NHSSCOTLAND HDL(2002) 76
Putting Spiritual Care into words

• Exploring the individual’s sense of meaning and purpose in life

• Exploring attitudes, beliefs, values and concerns around life and death issues

• Affirming life and worth by encouraging reminiscing of the past

• Exploring the individuals hopes and fears regarding the present and future for themselves and their families/carers

• Exploring the “Why” questions in relation to life, death and suffering

Standards for Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplaincy AHPCC
Spiritual Needs

- The needs and expectations which humans have to find meaning, purpose and value in their life. Such needs can be specifically religious, but even people who have no religious faith or are not members of an organised religion have beliefs systems that give their lives meaning and purpose.

Institute of Medicine 1997
Spiritual Care
Not just by chaplains

- Spiritual care is an important component of holistic care
- All NHS staff should be involved.
- Re-discovering the lost dimension
- It was always there in good practice
- Chaplains as professionals in this field.
Religious Care
Meeting Religious Needs

- Identify the religious needs
- Offer support directly
- Denominational chaplains
- Bring in the appropriate care
- Partnership with faith communities
Bridge builder or gatekeeper?

- Building bridges between hospitals and faith groups
- Co-ordinating and enabling work of denominational chaplains
- Partnership in care
Meeting religious needs

- Needs of all faith communities
- Worship
- Diet
- Modesty
- Death customs
- Birth customs
- etc etc etc
2001 Census

- **Aberdeen**
  - CofS: 37.35%
  - RC: 5.62%
  - Other Christian: 7.48%
  - Non Christian: 2.29%
  - None: 42.43%

- **Ab-shire**
  - CofS: 48.2%
  - RC: 3.70%
  - Other Christian: 9.54%
  - Non Christian: 0.71%
  - None: 33.47%

- **Moray**
  - CofS: 44.32%
  - RC: 6.90%
  - Other Christian: 13.28%
  - Non Christian: 0.95%
  - None: 30.63%

- **Grampian**
  - CofS: 43.19%
  - RC: 4.87%
  - Other Christian: 9.33%
  - Non Christian: 1.40%
  - None: 36.61%

- **Scotland**
  - CofS: 42.40%
  - RC: 15.88%
  - Other Christian: 6.82%
  - Non Christian: 1.87%
  - None: 27.55%
Religion and Belief Matter

- Launched by Alex Salmond Nov 07
- Scottish Interfaith Council
- NHS Scotland
- Fair for all
- The Scottish Government
- Review of contemporary research
- Responses from Scotland’s faith communities
Religions and Cultures

- Religions and Cultures in Grampian
  - a practical guide for health and social care staff to the diversity of beliefs, customs and cultures of the people of Grampian
- Also available on the NHSG Intranet.
A Multi-Faith Resource for Healthcare Staff

- NHS Education for Scotland (NES)
- Healthcare Chaplaincy Training and Development Unit.
Chaplaincy Team
Chaplaincy Team

- 12 Whole-time chaplains in Aberdeen
- 20 Sessional chaplains in smaller hospitals
- Denominational chaplains
- Volunteers
- Led by a Head of Spiritual Care
Organisational Structure

Chief Executive

Director of Corporate Communications

Head of Spiritual Care

WT Chaplains
12 chaplains = 8.8 wte

Dr Gray's, Elgin
4 chaplains = 7 sessions

Community Hospitals
20 Chaplains = 21 Sessions

Denominational Chaplains
SEC = 3 Sessions
RC = 2.45 sessions

Bishops

Volunteers

Clerical Staff
What do chaplains do?

- Pastoral care
- Religious care
- Spiritual care
- Patients
- Relatives, carers, visitors
- Staff
- Available to all faith groups or none
What do Chaplains do?

- spending time with patients and their visitors
- to listen...to support....to celebrate....to comfort....to pray
- in complete confidence no matter what their faith or beliefs.
Starting where the patient is

Now what's on the Worry Agenda today?
Working in partnership

- Chaplains
- NHS Staff
- Faith Communities
- To meet the spiritual and religious needs of patients, relatives, carers, staff.