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| Klickitat Valley HEALTH | Procedure Number: |
| | Effective Date: 9-19-18 |
| | Title: Death with Dignity Act |

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| ***SCOPE*** *(choose from: District wide, Family Medicine, Home Health Hospice, Hospital)**:***<br>***District Wide*** |
| ***LEVEL*** (*any departments within service areas that the procedure applies to)**:***<br>***All*** |
| ***POSITION(S) RESPONSIBLE:***<br>***All*** |
| ***PURPOSE:***<br>To define and clarify participation of KVH staff in the Death with Dignity Act (RCW 70.245) and related end of life issues. |

**POLICY:**

KVH medical providers, employees, independent contractors, and volunteers shall not provide the following services to enable a qualified patient to end his or her life:

- Act as the attending physician
- Act as the consulting physician
- Conduct the counseling (as behavioral health provider)
- Prescribe medications
- Dispense medications
- Transport medications
- Administer medications

All as defined in RCW 70.245

KVH medical providers, employees, independent contractors, and volunteers may (within their role and scope of practice at KVH) discuss the Death with Dignity Act and related end of life issues with patients and/or family members, provide information to persons about Death with Dignity Act resources, and facilitate contacts with providers of Death with Dignity Act services.

If there is a request for information about the Death with Dignity Act or related end of life issues, KVH staff shall use a consistent information resource to provide information. This information resource shall be approved by the KVH Ethics Committee and shall also contain information on services that are provided by KVH including Hospice, Home Health, Pain Specialty, Behavioral Health and Palliative Care options.

Any KVH staff may choose to not participate in the performance of services which they consider not ethical based on their personal beliefs.