

Good Practice Guidelines Faith and Ethnicity

- Establish your patients' ethnic identity and/or religious affiliation, and note this information in their case notes.
- Discuss with your patients any issues that may arise during testing, examination, diagnosis or treatment, so that you are both prepared to deal with these issues.
- If in doubt, discuss any medication or treatment with the patient first. If they are in doubt (or cannot take part in the discussion), then speak to their family, the hospital chaplain or a community leader.
- Offer patients help with any religious or cultural practices that they need to carry out while under your care (this will mostly apply to inpatients).
- Write up the outcomes of any discussions on this subject in a patient's case notes to assist their future care by other staff members.

Source: Ethnicity Online - Copyright (C) 2003 University of Cambridge, School of Clinical Medicine - All Rights Reserved