Managing Nicotine Dependence
Clinical Working Group

1. What is the program about?
This is a working group focusing on Managing Nicotine Dependence. This working group is managed by the Population Health Unit WSLHD. The group aims to implement the updated ‘Managing Nicotine Dependence’ Guidelines throughout the WSLHD. The group has been established to assist with the implementation of the NSW Health Smoke-free Health Care Policy. The purpose of the policy is to support WSLHD staff to provide effective, evidence-based treatments for nicotine dependent clients.

The Managing Nicotine Dependence Guidelines aim:

- to protect the health of staff/volunteers, patients and visitors from second hand smoke.
- to accurately assess a patient’s nicotine addiction and comfortably treat their withdrawals while in hospital, while providing further supports to quit.

2. Who is involved?
The group consists of

- Staff from the Health Promotion Service,
- The Tobacco Control coordinator, and
- Other clinical representatives from across each WSLHD facility.
- Health consumer representatives (two vacancies).

3. What is the role of the consumer in the program?
It is important to have consumer representation on this working group as their opinions, experiences and knowledge are crucial. We would like to learn more from consumers about being an ex-smoker or being someone who has been a smoker at the time they have been in hospital.

4. What is the time frame and what is the time commitment involved?
The working group will meet monthly for a period the group will decide. Meetings will take approximately one hour.
5. About this role: We are looking for

1. People who are happy to participate in a working group to help inform clinical procedures.
2. People who are interested in:
   - Smoking cessation in the health setting;
   - The quality and safety of healthcare; and
   - The processes relating to nicotine replacement therapies provided in hospital.
3. An ex-smoker would be preferred.
4. We welcome expressions of interest from:
   - People who live in Western Sydney in the local council areas of either Blacktown, The Hills, Holroyd, Parramatta or Auburn;
   - People who are interested in speaking up for consumers and are able to express their views;
   - People who are analytical and can review policy or procedure and who are able to review other documentation.
   - People who have had experiences in relation to smoking and understand the experiences of consumers that have been involved with Western Sydney Local Health District.

To express your interest in this opportunity, please

- contact the Manager for Community and Consumer Engagement, Dr Coralie Wales on 02 8838 6378 or 0418 186 829

If you
- would like to discuss the contents of this document, or
- have any suggestions for how to improve this document
please contact the Executive Medical Service