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PAPERS

*Nurturing Spirituality in Healthcare Chaplaincy*



## **Nurturing spirituality in healthcare chaplaincy education through Clinical Pastoral Education**

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Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is an internationally recognised methodology and pedagogy for training healthcare chaplains in the art and practice of spiritual care. Focussing on the development of the personal, pastoral and professional identity of participants, CPE seeks to integrate learned theology and spirituality with experienced and practiced spiritual care.

CPE has deep theological foundations with a recognised approach to theological reflection and praxis as students seek to integrate their theological and faith understanding with the experience of suffering and illness and the human condition as they engage in spiritual care.

This presentation explores how spirituality is nurtured, experienced and expressed in the person of the chaplain during their CPE process and in the care provided to a patient. How is spirituality nurtured in a CPE process that reflects the transformative relationship within the CPE student as an adult learner? How is spirituality nurtured in the pastoral relationship?

The role of spiritual nurture as a life-giving and essential part of chaplaincy education and practice will be explored and advocated as an important personal, pastoral and professional foundation for sustainable chaplaincy.