

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### 1. Policy Statement

At Acacia Country Practice, we are committed to environmental sustainability and minimizing our ecological footprint. We recognize our responsibility to contribute to the well-being of the planet and the local community. This policy outlines our commitment to sustainable practices across all aspects of our business operations.

### 2. Objectives

- To reduce our environmental impact through resource conservation, waste reduction, and energy efficiency.
- To promote the use of sustainable materials and practices in our products and services.
- To encourage environmental awareness and responsibility among our employees, customers, and suppliers.
- To comply with relevant environmental laws and regulations in Australia.

### 3. Areas of Focus

**a) Energy Efficiency:** We will strive to minimize energy consumption by:

- Using energy-efficient appliances, lighting, and equipment.
- Implementing practices to reduce energy waste, such as turning off lights and equipment when not in use.
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**b) Waste Reduction and Recycling:** We will actively promote waste reduction and recycling by:

- Minimizing single-use plastics and encouraging the use of reusable products.
- Separating and recycling materials where access to recycling is available.
- Liaising with local waste management services to keep up to date of any waste management issues & recycling opportunities
- Properly disposing of hazardous waste in accordance with local regulations.

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**c) Sustainable Procurement:** We will prioritize the procurement of environmentally responsible products and materials by:

- Choosing suppliers who demonstrate commitment to sustainability practices when feasible
- Sourcing locally produced and eco-friendly supplies when feasible.

**d) Water Conservation:** We will strive to conserve water by:

- Implementing water-saving measures in our operations including waterless hand sanitiser where available, dual flush toilets, educating staff on importance of water conservation etc
- Regularly checking for and repairing leaks.

**e) Education and Engagement:** We will educate and engage our staff & patients by:

- Raising awareness through internal communications and educational materials.

### 4. Continuous Improvement

We are committed to continuous improvement and will:

- Regularly review and update our environmental sustainability practices.

### 5. Compliance and Reporting

We will comply with all relevant environmental laws and regulations in Australia and:

- Maintain accurate records of our environmental initiatives.
- Cooperate with regulatory authorities as required.

### 6. Communication

This policy will be communicated to all employees, and we will encourage their active participation in achieving our environmental sustainability goals. We will also make this policy available to our customers, suppliers, and the public on request.

### 7. Leadership and Accountability

The management team is responsible for the implementation, communication, and enforcement of this policy. All employees are encouraged to contribute to its success.

<b>Establishment Date:</b>	August 2023
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<b>Owner:</b>	Acacia Country Practice
<b>Document Approver</b>	Company Director or Practice Manager