

<b>Policy subject:</b> Sustainable Health Services Delivery Policy	<b>Policy number:</b> 12/P.D/2024	<b>Date of last revision:</b> 2024/11/15
<b>Implementing body:</b> Administrative Affairs Department	<b>Implementing start date:</b> 2024/11/20	<b>Policy reference:</b> Planning and Development Department

## Overview

The **Sustainable Health Services Delivery Policy** at Palestine Ahliya University outlines a framework for integrating sustainable practices into healthcare service delivery. The policy focuses on environmental, social, and economic sustainability across all aspects of healthcare—from resource management to patient care. The goal is to deliver healthcare services that are equitable, cost-effective, environmentally responsible, and aligned with national healthcare objectives, particularly in underserved communities.

## Objectives

- Integrate Sustainability into Healthcare:** Embed sustainable practices in patient care, resource use, and waste management.
- Reduce Environmental Footprint:** Minimize energy use, waste, and emissions in healthcare settings.
- Ensure Equitable Access:** Provide accessible, affordable, and high-quality healthcare, especially to marginalized populations.
- Promote Resource Efficiency:** Optimize resource usage, including water, energy, and medical supplies, to reduce waste and costs.
- Enhance Community Health:** Build community resilience through public health initiatives and sustainable healthcare models.
- Educate on Sustainability:** Train healthcare professionals on integrating sustainability into their practice.

## Scope

- Healthcare Programs:** All health-related academic programs, including medicine, nursing, public health, and healthcare management.
- University Healthcare Facilities:** Clinics, hospitals, and community outreach services operated by the university.
- Students and Faculty:** Graduate and undergraduate healthcare students, and faculty involved in healthcare delivery, teaching, or research.
- External Partners:** Collaboration with local healthcare providers, NGOs, government agencies, and international organizations.

## Statements

- Commitment to Sustainable Healthcare:** The university is dedicated to offering healthcare services that prioritize sustainability, equity, and high standards of care.

2. **Environmental Stewardship:** The university will reduce healthcare's environmental impact through eco-friendly practices.
3. **Equitable Healthcare Access:** Ensure all individuals, regardless of background, have access to quality healthcare.
4. **Community Engagement:** Work with local communities to address health needs and promote preventive care.
5. **Collaboration for Impact:** Partner with national and global organizations to implement sustainable healthcare models.

## Procedures

1. **Sustainable Healthcare Operations:**
  - **Energy Efficiency:** Use energy-saving technologies, including LED lights and solar systems.
  - **Water Conservation:** Implement water-saving practices like low-flow fixtures and recycling systems.
  - **Sustainable Waste Management:** Reduce, recycle, and dispose of medical waste safely.
  - **Green Procurement:** Prioritize eco-friendly products and medical equipment.
2. **Sustainable Patient Care:**
  - **Eco-Friendly Practices:** Promote sustainable medical technologies like telemedicine and non-invasive diagnostics.
  - **Patient Education:** Teach patients about reducing waste and promoting healthy lifestyles.
  - **Sustainable Nutrition:** Provide locally sourced, organic, and plant-based meals.
3. **Resource Efficiency and Cost Reduction:**
  - **Efficient Resource Use:** Optimize the use of medical supplies, equipment, and staff.
  - **Electronic Health Records:** Transition to digital records to reduce paper waste and improve care.
  - **Telemedicine:** Use virtual care to reduce the carbon footprint of in-person visits.
4. **Community Health and Public Health Initiatives:**
  - **Preventive Healthcare:** Promote public health campaigns and screenings.
  - **Community-Based Models:** Support mobile health units and home healthcare services.
  - **Environmental Health Promotion:** Address environmental health risks like pollution.
5. **Sustainability Education and Training:**
  - **Sustainability in Education:** Integrate sustainability into healthcare curricula.
  - **Training Programs:** Offer workshops for healthcare professionals on sustainable practices.
  - **Research and Innovation:** Support research in green technologies and sustainable healthcare systems.
6. **Collaboration and Partnerships:**
  - **Healthcare Providers:** Collaborate with hospitals and clinics to implement sustainable practices.

- **Government and NGOs:** Partner with public and private organizations to promote sustainable healthcare policies.
  - **Global Cooperation:** Engage in international networks to share best practices.
7. **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting:**
- **Sustainability Audits:** Regularly assess energy use, waste management, and resource efficiency.
  - **Impact Measurement:** Evaluate the social, environmental, and economic impact of initiatives.
  - **Feedback Mechanisms:** Collect feedback from stakeholders to improve sustainability practices.

**Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):**

1.	Number of Students Accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
2.	Number of Students Participating in Sexual Health Education Programs
3.	Number of Students Participating in Health Education Programs
4.	Number of Students Accessing Mental Health Counseling
5.	Number of Staff Accessing Mental Health Support
6.	Number of Patients Benefiting from Sustainable Health Services