NUMED OWNED AND MANAGED ACCOMMODATION
ILLEGAL DRUGS (ZERO TOLERANCE) POLICY

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia is committed to the active promotion of healthy lifestyles for students. This includes a culture of ‘zero tolerance’ of illegal drugs and a policy to reinforce this culture.

APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

This policy applies to all residents who have a contract or booking for NUMed owned and managed accommodation and their invited guests.

DEFINITION

The Illegal Drugs (Zero Tolerance) policy extends to possession, use, supply or production of controlled substances in NUMed owned, leased and/or managed accommodation, whether the accommodation is on-campus or off-campus. Please note that in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of your Accommodation Contract, as a resident you are responsible for the action/behaviour of any guests invited onto our property.

POLICY AIM

a) All residents and prospective residents of NUMed accommodation to be made aware by specific and sufficient notice of their responsibilities and the consequences of their actions in relation to illegal substances.
b) All residents to be able to live in a safe, secure and healthy accommodation environment and protected from illegal drugs use.
c) All residents and prospective residents to be aware that illegal activities will not be condoned.
d) Treatment to be seen as fair and just and to be a deterrent to those contemplating involvement with illegal drugs.

RESPONSIBILITIES

NUMed has both a pastoral role and a legal duty of care to all residents, as well as a responsibility for preventing unlawful actions taking place in residences under its control. NUMed, who have a direct responsibility for residents, are fully aware of their duties in this area and receive training designed to inform, support and manage drug related issues.

It is the responsibility of students not to engage in illegal drugs use, not to expose other residents of shared NUMed student accommodation to such use and not to expose the University to reputational and legal risks concerning such illegal drugs use.
NUMed recognises the need for support for those wishing to discuss problems related to the use of drugs. Confidential advice, support or information is available from

student.support@ncl.edu.my

Under Student Disciplinary Procedures for Residences an ‘Authorised Person’ will fully investigate any allegation of drug use and where appropriate Police will be involved. The term ‘drug use’ is to be interpreted broadly, including (but not restricted to) a student having illegal substances on their person or in their accommodation, using illegal substances or being found to be supplying illegal substances and using the accommodation for this purpose. If illegal drug use is established on the available evidence, the ‘Illegal Drugs (Zero Tolerance) Policy will apply and will normally result in the termination of the accommodation contract of any resident of University owned or managed accommodation. The student will be required to leave the accommodation and pay the usual termination charge.* For avoidance of doubt, termination of contract will normally apply to any illegal drug use and to first offences, even in the first few weeks at University.

*In practical terms the student will be requested to leave their University-owned, leased and/or managed accommodation and be served with a legal notice to quit. Whilst the student may have been asked to leave they will remain liable for all accommodation fees due under the original contract. Accommodation Services will provide advice to the student on finding alternative accommodation.

Policy Implementation Date: August 2014
Next Review Date: August 2015
Policy Owner: Paul Bandeen