

Religion and Healthcare PROTESTANTS

CAVEATS—REMEMBER NOT TO STEREOTYPE: Overviews are generalizations and will not apply to every member of a culture, faith, ethnicity or race. **DISCUSSION WITH PATIENTS/CLIENTS IS ESSENTIAL:** Communicate with each individual through culturally competent and culturally sensitive dialog.

INCLUDES: [illustrative list; not exhaustive]

Amish, Anglican, Baptist, Christian, Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Mennonites, Methodist, Presbyterian, and United Church of Christ

Protestantism originated with the Reformation, a movement against what followers believed to be errors in the Roman Catholic Church. They emphasize justification by faith alone rather than by good works, and the highest authority of the Bible alone in faith and morals.

Beliefs

- Community worship is important
- Emphasis on the Holy Bible and Scriptures
- Jesus of Nazareth is the son of God
- Two Sacraments: Baptism and Communion.

Death

- Autopsy, organ donation acceptable
- Euthanasia is generally not acceptable

Diet

- No restrictions

Health

- Blood, blood products are an individual choice

Holy Issues

- Daily prayer and Scripture reading
- Traditional holidays observances

Pregnancy

- Baptism of infants practiced in some denominations
- Birth control and artificial insemination are an individual choice

Rituals

- Anointing, prayer, Eucharist, and other rituals
- Prayers for healing, individual prayer, and the Sacraments

Symbols

- Bible
- Cross
- Most ordain both men and women while some only men

Clinical Significance

- No clinical issues that inhibit healthcare