

What is Palliative Care?

Palliative Care is specialized medical, nursing, social and spiritual care that works to reduce the symptoms, pain and stress of people living with a chronic or advanced illness.

Palliative Care services are appropriate for patients of any age, at any stage of an illness and can be provided at the same time as curative treatment.

Serious illnesses bring about the need for information, choosing new paths and making choices—for now and in the future.

To benefit from Palliative Care, ask your doctor to consult the Palliative Medicine Service.

*A patient care service offered by
Self Regional Healthcare and
HospiceCare of the Piedmont
864.725.5155*

Palliative Care



Specialized care for patients and their families as they cope with serious illness.



Is Palliative Care something that would help me?

Palliative Care may be helpful if you have a serious illness or injury that can be predicted to get worse or may not be responding to medical treatments. This includes but is not limited to:

- Advanced heart disease
- Advanced lung disease such as COPD, end stage kidney disease
- Multiple Sclerosis (MS)
- Cancers
- HIV/AIDS
- advanced dementia, including Alzheimer's

It may also be helpful if you experience any of the following:

- Frequent Emergency Room visits
- Frequent Hospital Admissions (3 or more within 12 months)
- A medical condition that is worsening
- Malnutrition and losing weight related to advanced disease

Who does Palliative Care work with?

The Palliative Care Team works with your physicians and other health care team members to help manage the symptoms and pain associated with your illness. The team often works with family members when the patient is not able to participate in discussions or is able to make choices for themselves.

Where can I receive Palliative Care?

Palliative Care is available to patients admitted to Self Regional HealthCare.

Who is the Palliative Care Team?

- A physician who is an expert in treatment to help relieve pain and symptoms caused by the illness or aggressive curative treatments of the disease.
- A nurse with specialized, training in complex, with chronic illnesses, end-of-life concerns, pain and symptom management, educating patients and families on disease progress and care options, and advance care planning.
- A social worker with training in counseling patients and family members about psychosocial issues, coordination of community resources and advance care planning.
- A chaplain who offers spiritual and emotional support, counseling and coping strategies for patients and families, according to their faith and individual needs.
- Other therapies – Physical, Respiratory, Speech and others as needed.



Is there a separate cost for Palliative Care?

Palliative Care is available to any patient, regardless of ability to pay. Most insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid, cover the cost of Palliative Care when the patient is in the hospital.

How does Palliative Care help?

The Palliative Care Team will help you and your family:

- Learn more about your disease
- Learn about care options
- Clarify goals of treatment
- Support medical decisions
- Pain and symptom management
- Help with Advance Care planning
- Provide emotional support
- Provide spiritual or religious support
- Make referrals to community agencies



Is Palliative Care the same as Hospice?

No, although that is a common belief. Hospice helps those who are expected to live six months or less.

Palliative Care helps and supports patients and families through all stages of a serious illness. Palliative Care may be combined with therapies aimed at reducing or curing the illness or it may be total focus of care.

*To find out more about
Palliative Care call
864.725.5155*