

What is palliative care?

Palliative care is an approach which concentrates on providing quality of life for people with advanced illness and support for them and their families. We aim to identify and address physical, emotional and practical issues and end of life issues where appropriate.

Who do we see?

We see patients with illnesses such as cancer, chest and heart diseases, kidney and liver failure, neurological conditions and dementia.

Where will we see you?

Our hospital team will see you on the ward or in the out-patient department.

On discharge you may be referred to the community team working in your area who will visit you at home.

What does the palliative care team do?

We will assess your needs and treat any symptoms you may have, such as pain, sickness, breathlessness, tiredness etc. We will also support and advise on other issues you and your family may have including psychological, social or financial concerns. We will make referrals to other professionals as necessary. We can help you think about and plan for your future care if you wish to do so.

Who is in the palliative care team?

- Senior specialist nurses
- Medical consultants and doctors in training
- Team administrator
- Physiotherapist
- Specialist social worker

Who is in charge of your care?

In the hospital you will remain under the care of your consultant's team and we will advise them as needed. Decisions regarding your treatment, discharge or transfer will be made by you, your consultant and their team.

We work closely with your doctors, nurses and other health care professionals that are involved in your care.

Comments/concerns regarding the service

If you would like to make any comments about your care, please speak to our PALS team or use the contact the details below:

Dr Hannah Western,
Palliative Care Service Line
Lead,
Barnet Hospital,
Wellhouse Lane,
Barnet EN5 3DJ

Jo Wilson,
Macmillan Consultant Nurse
Palliative Care Team,
Royal Free London NHS
Foundation Trust,
Pond St,
London NW3 2QG.

The palliative care team has a charitable fund managed by the Royal Free Charity. Speak to your palliative care nurse if you would like to make a donation to the team.

Your palliative care keyworker is

Useful contacts

**Macmillan Cancer
Information & Support Centre
Barnet Hospital
(Main entrance Level 1)**
020 8216 4142
www.royalfree.nhs.uk

**Macmillan Cancer
Information and Support
Centre – Chase Farm
Hospital (no drop-in-centre)**
07852 428 287
www.royalfree.nhs.uk

National Support Organisations

Macmillan Cancer Support
www.macmillan.org.uk
0808 808 0000

Please contact the above services for local and national cancer support, information, resources and advice.

British Heart Foundation
www.bhf.org.uk
0300 330 3311

The Alzheimer's Society
www.alzheimers.org.uk
0300 222 1122

Parkinsons UK
www.parkinsons.org.uk
0808 800 0303

**The Motor Neurone
Disease Association**
www.mndassociation.org.uk
01604 250 505

Citizens Advice Bureau
www.citizensadvice.org.uk

How to contact us

Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm
Direct line: 020 8216 4446

If you contact us outside these working hours, please leave a message on the answer machine and we will respond as soon as we are back in the office.

If the patient you are enquiring about is an in-patient the ward staff will also be able to help with any queries.

For advice at night: If you are at home ring **NHS 111**

Palliative care team

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