



# 10 questions to ask about palliative care in residential aged care



Palliative care is care that helps people live their life as fully and comfortably as possible when living with a life-limiting or terminal illness. For many residents in aged care, the staff in the service will be able to provide the care you need. Other residents may need specialist palliative care. We recommend you or your family ask the following questions to find out whether the service can manage your changing needs in the final stage of your life.

- 1** Are you able to provide a palliative approach to care?
- 2** Do I need an advance care plan?
- 3** What palliative care training do staff receive?
- 4** How will staff recognise when I'm close to dying and what processes are in place for this?
- 5** What support will there be for my loved ones when I'm close to dying?
- 6** What arrangements are in place for my spiritual and cultural needs?
- 7** Will I be able to have specialist palliative care if I need it?
- 8** Will I get the medicines I need if things change suddenly, and how long will it take?
- 9** How many staff are present on evening and night duty?
- 10** If I need equipment to help with my comfort or problems, will the facility provide it?