

How palliative care can help

If you have an incurable or terminal illness, your local palliative care service can provide you and your family with support such as:

1. A nurse calling you or visiting your home to see how you are going;
2. Help to manage any physical problems such as pain, so you are more comfortable;
3. Help to understand how some things might change – things such as taste, how much food you want to eat, your energy levels;
4. Talking to your family members if they are tired or distressed;
5. Help to talk to doctors and other health providers;
6. Help to understand all about your medications - what it is, what it does and when it should be taken;
7. Help to understand your options for treatment in Australia and helping you to choose what is best for you;
8. Arrange for you to have equipment to help you in your home, including a hospital bed, shower chair, wheelchairs etc (a small cost may apply);
9. Arrange respite in the home for family and carers, so they have a chance to rest;
10. Help to understand where financial help can be available, and how to access it;
11. Help to meet spiritual care needs and manage grief;
12. Help to find other services you may need.

