

SPECIALIST PALLIATIVE CARE COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Service delivers an integrated multidisciplinary community based specialist service providing specialist palliative and end-of-life care for patients aged 18 years and over requiring complex symptom management, psychological support and assessment of their changing condition and/or disease progression.

Springhill Hospice's Specialist Palliative Care Community Service will work in collaboration with General Practitioners, District Nurses and other Health and Social Care providers to care for patients at the end-of-life and support their families.

The Service is designed to reduce hospital admissions, offering support and treatment in the patient's preferred place of care

The Service consists of:

Medical Services

Specialist Palliative Care Medical services are provided by Springhill Hospice Consultant/Medical Director and Hospice Doctors. Patients can be referred to the Community Service Outpatient Clinic and, in certain circumstances, domiciliary visits can be arranged. The Medical team is available as a specialist resource to other health professionals caring for patients in the community

Specialist Palliative Care Nursing Services

Referred patients will be allocated their own Specialist Palliative Care Nurse who will support the patient and family at appropriate stages of their illness. Our team of Specialist Nurses will be available to respond to patient and family need 7 days a week, 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am - 4pm weekends and bank Holidays. A 'duty' Specialist Palliative Care Nurse will be available during these times to respond appropriately to urgent referrals.



Hospice at Home

The Hospice at Home service provides flexible and responsive palliative nursing care to patients at the end of life who have indicated that they would like to spend their last days in their own home. The service is designed to work alongside, and in addition to, current services provided by the Hospice Specialist Palliative Care Nursing service, District Nursing team and Home Care providers. The main aim of the Hospice at Home service is to provide patients and families with the appropriate level of additional care required to ensure the patient has the support they need to remain in their own home and to prevent any unnecessary admissions to hospital.

Night Sitting Service

In partnership with Marie Curie Cancer Care, Springhill Hospice offers a night sitting service for patients and families. The service is designed to offer an additional element of support to the families of patients, enabling them to have a well-deserved break overnight in the knowledge that an experienced, trained night sitter is caring for their loved one.

Education

The Education Co-ordinator will deliver programmes of Specialist Palliative Care and End of Life Care training to Health and Social Care professionals across Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale.

Social Work

Our Social Worker will be available to assess personal and social care needs of families and patients. We are able to offer advice and support on issues relating to welfare, finance, housing and other social issues.

Physiotherapy

The primary aim of our physiotherapy service is to support the patient to achieve their maximum potential function within their own limits, in turn, promoting independence and dignity and improving the patient's quality of life.



Counselling and Spiritual Support

Psychological, emotional and spiritual support will be available to patients and families from the Hospice Counselling team and Spiritual Care Co-ordinator. Counselling services will be available via an outpatient clinic and, where appropriate, home visits will be available. The counselling team also offer bereavement counselling and support to bereaved families.

24 hour Specialist Palliative Care Advice Line

The Advice line is available to patients, families and Health and Social Care professionals. The Hospice nurses who take Advice Line calls can offer advice and support on a variety of palliative care and end of life issues and can take out-of-hours referrals to Hospice services.

Volunteer Support Service

Patients and families can be further supported by our volunteer service who can offer additional services to patients and families ie, companion service, volunteer drivers, gardeners and even dog-walking!

For more information or to make a referral, please contact our Community Service Liaison Nurse.

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