



Cancer Services & Care

In order for you or your family member to receive the best care, it is important to know how cancer care and services are different or similar. All services provide care to make you feel more comfortable.

Palliative Care

Palliative care is designed to address many types of symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, feeling tired (fatigue), and pain. Palliative care may also help with other physical and emotional symptoms. Care is provided in the form of medications, treatments, oxygen, or special therapy. A key difference from other services is that palliative care is offered to patients of any age and anytime during an illness. This care can be given when someone is acutely ill and recovering from an illness or during treatments for life-threatening illnesses. It is also given at the end of a person's life so that they can be as comfortable and symptom-free as possible.

Case Management/Care Management

Case Management services are offered by Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Registered Nurses. They work to meet patient's needs and as patients transfer from the hospital to home. They help patients avoid being admitted to the hospital when possible. They care for patients with multiple diseases, helping patients understand their chronic diseases and how to better manage them. Case Managers assist in transfers to a Skilled Nursing Facility (should that be needed). They help in obtaining medical equipment. Case Managers also help in the coordination of care among many specialties.

Hospice Care

Hospice care is care that is provided by a specially trained team of professionals. They work with patients and family members to provide care during the end of their life. This can be anywhere from a few days to 6 months. It can be provided in many locations. Care is provided in a caring and compassionate manner when life cannot be prolonged or a cure is not desired or possible. Advance care planning and patient-centered decision making support the choices made by patients and family. Hospice care provides support to care givers and family members in the care of their loved one.

For more information, please see handout on "Hospice Care : How Can it Help Me or My Family?"



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