

What is the role of Palliative Care WA (Inc)?

Palliative Care WA (Inc) is the body representing individuals and organisations who provide palliative care services throughout Western Australia. As the co-ordinating body for palliative care in the State, it plays a major role in:

- Providing palliative care information to the public, government and health professionals
- Providing a united voice for palliative care providers
- Promoting and supporting palliative care research via the media and public relations activities
- Facilitating the ongoing development of palliative care policies, standards and services.
- Keeping abreast of national developments by liaising with similar organisations throughout Australia.

Becoming a member of Palliative Care WA (Inc)

By becoming a paid member of Palliative Care WA (Inc) you will give strength to the organisation's role as a representative voice for palliative care services throughout Western Australia.

The organisation is pleased to receive public donations which are tax deductible to support particular projects and events.

Palliative Care WA (Inc)
46 Ventnor Avenue
West Perth WA 6005

Tel/Fax (08) 9212 4330

Email: pcwainc@palliativecarewa.asn.au
Website: www.palliativecarewa.asn.au

We are a small organisation with a part time administrator. Please leave a message on our answer phone if there is no response to your phone call. Our website contains current information.



**PALLIATIVE CARE
WA (INC)**

INFORMATION GUIDE

*Palliative Care WA(Inc) aims
to promote the highest quality
of palliative care to
all Western Australians*

What is palliative care?

Palliative care is the specialised care and support of people with a progressive life limiting illness. Palliative care aims to ensure their dignity and quality of life is maintained at all times. Palliative care services provide a team of people trained to offer the best care to the person and to support their family and loved ones.

Where are services provided?

Palliative care services are provided at home, in hospice palliative care units, private and public hospitals and aged care facilities. The range of services offered by palliative care facilities varies throughout the State but may include:

- Specialised medical and nursing services
- Day care and respite care
- Carer support
- Bereavement support
- Counselling
- Pastoral care/spiritual counselling
- Home care services
- Information and education

Who gives the care?

Palliative care is best provided by a specialised team, as no individual has all the skills required

Family and friends are often the main carers with the health professionals to support them.

Team members vary according to each palliative care service and the needs of the local community. Doctors, nurses, chaplains, social workers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, complementary therapists and counsellors may be included in the team.

Volunteers are available to provide practical and emotional support.

What about comfort?

Knowledge about pain management has greatly increased in recent years. It is now possible to relieve pain in most cases.

As well as conventional medicines non-drug interventions including massage, relaxation therapy, reiki, physiotherapy and music therapy are some of the many ways to manage pain.

How do you get Palliative Care Help?

Your general practitioner or hospital specialist can refer people to a palliative care service.

What do the services cost?

Many facilities provide access to services on the basis of clinical need, not ability to pay, but a financial contribution is requested in some circumstances. It is recommended that fees be discussed with the palliative care service. Where relevant, private health funds should be consulted regarding hospital charges.

“Palliative Caring at Home Book”

This booklet helps carers through the complexities of caring for a person with an advanced or terminal illness. Copies are available from Palliative Care WA (Inc) at a cost of \$5.00 including GST and postage and packaging.

What if you do not speak English well?

Brochures explaining palliative care have been written in many different languages and are available from Palliative Care Australia www.pallcare.org.au. Tel: 02 6232 4433

What if you want to know more about cancer?

Phone The Cancer Helpline on 13 11 20 for free information and counselling service.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

METROPOLITAN AREA

Consulting Services

Royal Perth Hospital – 9224 2244

Fremantle Hospital – 9431 3333

Queen Elizabeth II – 9346 3333

St John of God - Subiaco - 9382 6111

Inpatient Services

Palliative Care Unit Hollywood Private Hospital
9346 6450

Murdoch Community Hospice - 9366 1366

Bethesda Hospital, Palliative Care Unit
9340 6300

Kalamunda Palliative Care Unit - 9293 2122

Sandalwood PC Unit, Glengarry Private Hospital
9246 6395

Community Palliative Care

Silver Chain Hospice Care Service
9242 0242

Palliative Care Unit Hollywood Private Hospital
9346 6450

Peel Community Palliative Care
9531 7222

COUNTRY

Contact PCWA Website –
www.palliativecarewa.asn.au