Palliative care

“In the end it’s not the years in your life that counts. It’s the life in your years”

Today you were seen by:

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Further information:
Palliative Care Victoria
www.pallcarevic.asn.au
Palliative Care Australia
www.palliativecare.org.au
CareSearch (Information)
www.caresearch.com.au
Cancer Council Victoria
www.cancervic.org.au
GriefLine (counselling)
www.griefline.org.au

If you would like to provide feedback or request a copy of this information in a different format, contact us at patient.info@alfred.org.au

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What is palliative care?
Palliative care aims to give you greater control over your treatment and quality of life. Palliative care recognises that if you are living with a progressive and life-limiting illness, you may have particular needs. The focus of palliative care is on you rather than the disease; on managing symptoms to make you feel as comfortable as possible.

Palliative care recognises the importance of your family and friends. It offers assistance in coping with the experience of caring for someone.

Who are we?
We are a specialist team of doctors, nurses, a grief counsellor and a music therapist within Alfred Health. The consultancy service is available if you require palliative care at The Alfred, Caulfield or Sandringham hospitals.

How can palliative care help me?
The service works very closely with your treating team to achieve the following:

- the best possible symptom control
- ongoing planning of care and support for you and your family.
- goals of care and complex decision making discussions e.g. How do I wish to be cared for?
- grief counselling for you and those close to you
- ongoing support when needed for your family and carer.

The Palliative Care Service has close contact with both palliative care inpatient units and community based palliative care services statewide.

Our specialist team can help you at every stage.

Who can refer you to the Palliative Care service?
- Health professionals
- Carers (with your permission)
- You can refer yourself to the service

The service assists in promoting a smooth transition in care between the acute hospital setting and the community or other care setting.

The service operates an outpatient clinic at The Alfred. Your treating team can refer you to a medical practitioner for specialist symptom management.