

How do we get Palliative Care Services?

Anyone can request palliative care services by talking to a regulated nurse (RN or LPN) on the care unit. The palliative care nurse consultant will coordinate palliative care services.

The Carewest Pain and Palliative Care Team

Contact us at:

CarewestPainPalliativeConsultants@albertahealthservices.ca

Innovative Health Care

Carewest is a leading-edge health care organization that provides long-term care, rehabilitation and recovery services and community programs for adults of all ages. As Calgary's largest care provider of its kind, Carewest operates 14 locations and several community services aimed at helping people live more independent lives.

The Calgary Health Foundation

The Calgary Health Foundation fundraises for excellence in health care and helps ensure the quality of life for those served by Carewest. To donate, please visit calgaryhealthfoundation.ca/carewest or call 403-943-0615

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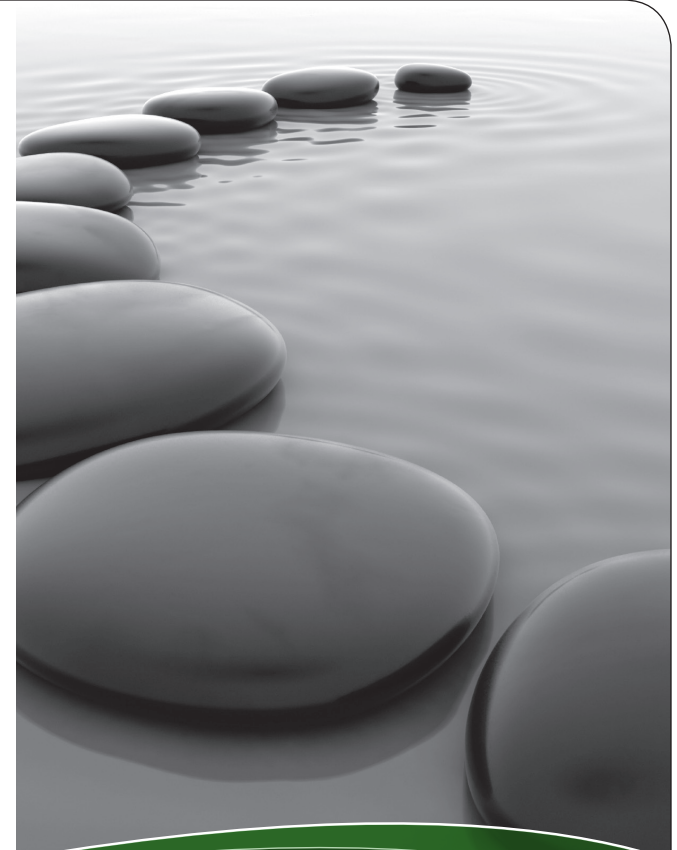
Philosophy of Care

In support of our Carewest Frame of Reference, our Philosophy of Care is:

To provide our residents and clients with quality care in safe, comfortable and supportive environments.



www.carewest.ca
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Carewest
Pain and Palliative Care
Consulting Services



What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care helps people who are terminally ill live out their remaining time in comfort and dignity.

Palliative care is helpful not only when a person is approaching death, but also at earlier stages of an illness. It can also help families meet the challenges they face when a loved one's illness cannot be cured.

The goal of palliative care is to have the best quality of life for the residents and families who are facing serious illnesses and challenges at end-of-life.

Pain and Symptom Management

The palliative care nurse and physician consultants work with the resident and entire care team to help ease the pain and uncomfortable symptoms associated with illnesses and physical disabilities.

Grief and Loss Support

The palliative care team can help families and residents deal with grief and loss associated with declining health and the dying process. Loss support can help residents deal with other issues including loss of independence and personal possessions. Families may also use loss support to help cope with the absence of their loved one in their daily lives.

Spiritual Care

Spiritual Care support is also available to clients and families. Spiritual care includes providing non-judgmental listening, facilitating rites and rituals, helping to connect with community resources, and support for clients experiencing spiritual distress.

Some signs of spiritual distress may include feelings of hopelessness, difficulty finding meaning, overwhelming grief, and a loss of sense of self or spiritual identity.

Volunteer Support

The palliative care team will make every effort to provide a specially trained volunteer to comfort or sit with a dying resident. One-to-one compassionate support is also available for any resident or family member dealing with declining health of their loved one.

Education

The palliative care team provides ongoing education for residents, family members, volunteers and care giving staff on advanced care planning, illness and symptom management, end-of-life planning and grief.

Bereavement Support

The palliative care team can provide information and referrals to help grieving families find closure and deal with the pain of losing a loved one.

"The Carewest Palliative Care Team was there to listen, to walk and to become our stronghold. Through our sorrow and sadness, their warmth, caring and strength comforted us."

- Eleanor Hill,
Family member

