Palliative Care: Services and Resources

General Palliative Care Resources

> CareSearch GP Hub
The GP Hub has a set of pages and information designed specifically for GPs to help them in providing quality palliative care.

> palliAGEDgp
palliAGEDgp is a smartphone app that helps GPs who are caring for older palliative patients living at home or in residential care.

> Decision Assist: A framework of palliative care for community based aged care
This framework uses three prognostic trajectories to support GPs proactively manage their patient’s care as it transitions from curative to palliative and to facilitate a quality end-of-life according to patient preferences.

> Therapeutic Guidelines: Palliative Care V3.
(Restricted access, subscription required)
These guidelines provide concise information about common palliative care problems encountered by healthcare workers involved in the care of patients with a life-limiting illness.

Finding Palliative Care Services

> National Palliative Care Service Directory
Palliative Care Australia’s directory provides information about specialist palliative care service providers, state or territory palliative care organisations and community support agencies.

> National Health Service Directory
These directories provide a range of health services including allied health, hospital and community services to support health professionals to coordinate ongoing care for patients with chronic and complex conditions.

> Bereavement Services
List of Australian and International Bereavement Services that may be useful to those who are grieving and those who are working with bereaved individuals and families from the Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement.

Advance care planning

> Advance Care Planning Australia
Provides information on advance care planning and links to state and territory contacts and resources.

> QUT End of Life Law in Australia
It is designed to be used by patients, families, health and legal practitioners, the media, policymakers and the broader community to access information about Australian laws relating to death, dying and decision-making at the end of life.
Communications
> Clayton JM, Hancock KM, Butow PN, Tattersall MHN and Currow DC, MJA 2007 Clinical practice guidelines for communicating prognosis and end-of-life issues with adults in the advanced stages of a life-limiting illness, and their caregivers. These guidelines have been prepared to assist clinicians with the difficult but important task of communicating prognosis to patients in the advanced stages of a life-limiting illness, and their caregivers.

> CareSearch GP Hub: Communications
Being able to openly discuss changes in care and talk comfortably about end-of-life issues is important. These pages identify information on communication resources.

Medications
> Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine End of Life (Terminal) Symptom Management Medications for Older Australians Living in the Community 2015
Detailed summary: A consensus based list of medications suitable for use in community aged care for the management of terminal symptoms.

> palliAGEDgp: Prescribing guidance
Prescribing guidance in the app provides key points to consider in the pharmacological management of end-of-life (terminal) symptoms.


Comprehensive set of Australian-based medication monographs to guide health professionals in the safe administration of medications for people unable to swallow solid oral medicines.

Education
> CareSearch Education
These pages will help all health professionals consider their educational needs and find learning options.

Palliative care is care that helps people live their life as fully and as comfortably as possible when living with a life-limiting or terminal illness. Palliative care identifies and treats symptoms which may be physical, emotional, spiritual or social. Palliative Care Australia http://palliativecare.org.au/what-is-palliative-care/#