

# Welcome to our Palliative Care Program

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Palliative Care Program  
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## What is Palliative Care?

Palliative Care is a program, which improves the quality of life for patients living with a life threatening illness. Our service addresses the physical, spiritual, emotional and social needs of patients and their families.

Vancouver Hospital Palliative Care Program is offered at three sites:

- Vancouver General Hospital
- UBC Hospital
- GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre

### **Our goal is to:**

- Control symptoms to improve quality of life
- Coordinate care with other health care providers
- Ensure that there is open communication between the patient, family and health care providers
- Support the patient and family throughout the life threatening illness
- Plan discharge home, hospice or to another care facility
- Provide bereavement support

## Vancouver General Hospital

There is a 14 bed Palliative Care Unit located in Jim Pattison Pavilion (16th floor), which is a short stay unit that offers expert care to patients with complex needs. This unit is family-centered and family and friends are encouraged to take part in the care of their loved ones. If appropriate, patients are transferred to home or hospice. Visiting is welcomed 24 hours a day, and families may stay overnight if they wish.

Palliative Care is available to patients and their families on any unit in the hospital. The specialized doctors and nurses of the Palliative Care Consultation Service provide this service.

## UBC Hospital/GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre

The specialized team of the Palliative Care Consultation Service can be called in to see patients and their families on any unit in these facilities.

## Care at Home

Our Palliative Care Program works closely with community hospitals and homecare programs to plan for care at home. Services are organized to meet individual needs. Family meetings are often used to help with this process.

## Bereavement Support

Bereavement follow-up is available to provide support for family and friends at Vancouver Hospital as well as through the Home Care Program. A memorial service is held twice a year for families.

## For more Information

- VGH Palliative Care Unit  
604-875-4715
- Vancouver Home Hospice Program  
604-742-4010