

Specialist Palliative Care Services in Gloucestershire

Introduction

This leaflet explains the structure and support offered by the Specialist Palliative Care team within Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

What is Specialist Palliative Care?

Specialist Palliative Care aims to support patients and their families with potentially life threatening illnesses to achieve the best possible quality of life. The support offered might include:

- Helping you to live as actively as possible, taking account of your emotional, social and spiritual needs, alongside your physical ones.
- Supporting you and your family in coping with your illness and the choices you wish to make.
- Providing good relief from pain and other symptoms.

How does the Specialist Palliative Care Team work?

The Specialist Palliative Care Team is made up of a variety of professionals including doctors, specialist nurses and occupational therapists who have all received specialist training. The team review people in hospital (including the community hospitals), their own home and nursing homes. They help with the management of complex problems, particularly when an existing plan does not seem to be working.

A Specialist Palliative Care Multidisciplinary Team meeting takes place every week to discuss the progress of individual patients care and treatment options. Patients will be informed of any discussions about them that take place during this meeting.

Reference No.

GHP10348_04_23

Department

Palliative Care

Review due

April 2026

**Patient
Information**

What help is available?

- Medical and nursing advice, for issues such as relief of pain and other symptoms.
- Providing information about the illness and possible treatments.
- Financial advice about benefits and grants.
- Practical help and advice about useful equipment.
- Advice and help with discharge from hospital.
- Emotional and spiritual support.
- Ongoing support for carers and family.
- Providing information about other relevant agencies who offer emotional and practical support and advice on financial issues.

Who provides this support?

These services are provided by a wide variety of people. Much of your care will be provided by your GP and district nurse while you are at home and by your hospital consultant and ward staff when you are in hospital. The Specialist Palliative Care Team work alongside your GP and the district nurses in providing support for you and your family.

Members of the team include:

- Consultants in palliative medicine
- Medical staff
- Specialist nurses
- Clinical psychologists
- Occupational therapists
- Department of Spiritual Care
- Complementary therapists

**Patient
Information**

Contact information

If you or your family have any questions or concerns, then please contact a member of the team on the number below.

Community Specialist Palliative Care Team

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Tel: 0300 4225 5370

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

Hospital Specialist Palliative Care Teams

Tel: 0300 422 5179

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

Hospices and Day Care

Sue Ryder Care

Leckhampton Court Hospice

Cheltenham

GL53 0QJ

Tel: 01242 230 199

Longfield Hospice

Burleigh Lane

Minchinhampton

GL5 2PQ

Tel: 01453 886 868

Great Oaks Hospice

The Gorse

Coleford

GL16 8QE

Tel: 01594 811 910

**Patient
Information****Further information****FOCUS Cancer Information and Support Centre**

Cheltenham General Hospital

Tel: 0300 4224 414

Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

The FOCUS Cancer Information and Support Centre is located in the Oncology Department at Cheltenham General Hospital. Please drop in for a chat and advice on how to access other services.

Maggie's Centre

The Lodge

Cheltenham General Hospital

College Baths Road

Cheltenham

GL53 7QB

Tel: 01242 250 611

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

The Maggie's Centre provide information and support to address every aspect of living with cancer from the practicalities of claiming benefits to the physical and emotional effects of cancer.

Charlie's Centre

Unit 2

Edison Close

Venture Business Centre

Madleaze Road

Gloucester

GL1 5SL

Website: www.charlies.org.uk

1st Wed of each month, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Supporting patients and families affected by cancer.

Macmillan Cancer Support

Website: www.macmillan.org.uk

Cancer Research UK

Website: www.cancerresearchuk.org

**Patient
Information**

Gloucestershire Specialist Palliative Care Team

Website: www.gloshospitals.nhs.uk/our-services/services-we-offer/end-life-palliative-care/

A variety of other websites are available that focus on specific cancers and other illnesses, please ask a member of the team for more information.

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