

Guide to Specialist Palliative Care Services

Admission criteria by service type

Patient must meet the Generic Referral Criteria for Specialist Palliative Care prior to commencing referral for admission to any of the following services

| Outpatient Clinic | Community | Consultation – Facilities* | Consultation – Hospital | Specialist Palliative Care Unit |
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| Specialist advice required | Specialist advice and/or care at home required | Specialist advice required | Specialist advice required | Specialist care required |
| Patient is within catchment (for public services only) | Patient is within catchment | Patient is within catchment | | Patient cannot be optimally managed in current environment |
| Able to attend clinic | Patient and carer have consented to care at home | | | |
| Patient has consented to referral | Patient and carer aware of referral and have understanding of palliative care | Patient and carer aware of referral and have understanding of palliative care | | Patient and carer aware of referral and understanding of palliative care |
| Referral by doctor, nurse practitioner or palliative care service | Referral by doctor, nurse practitioner or palliative care service | Referral by doctor, nurse practitioner or nurse in consultation with GP | Referral according to individual hospital criteria | Referral by doctor, nurse practitioner or palliative care service |

Services provided by admission type

All services have links with and can refer to other Specialist Palliative Care Services

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| Comprehensive assessment | Comprehensive assessment | Comprehensive assessment | Comprehensive assessment | Comprehensive assessment |
| Care planning and co-ordination | Care planning and co-ordination | Care planning and co-ordination | Care planning and co-ordination | Care planning and co-ordination |
| Symptom management | Symptom management | Symptom management | Symptom management | Symptom management |
| Access to multidisciplinary team | Access to multidisciplinary team | Access to multidisciplinary team | Access to multidisciplinary team | Access to multidisciplinary team |
| Psychosocial support for patient and family | Psychosocial support for patient and family | Psychosocial support for patient and family | Psychosocial support for patient and family | Psychosocial support for patient and family |
| Shared care with other care providers | Shared care with other care providers | Shared care with other care providers | Shared care with other care providers | Shared care with other care providers |
| | Access to equipment and resources | | | Care in specialised facility |
| | Practical support | Advisory/educational support to doctors, nursing and allied health care workers | Advisory/educational support to doctors, nursing and allied health care workers | |
| | Terminal care | Terminal care | Terminal care | Terminal care |
| | Bereavement support | Bereavement support | Bereavement support | Bereavement support |

* Residential Care Facilities, Secondary Hospitals, Disability Service Facilities, Mental Health Services and Correctional Services.