

QUESTIONS ABOUT PATHWAYS PALLIATIVE CARE

Q. *Who can benefit from Pathways Palliative Care?*

Anyone diagnosed with life-limiting illness or experiencing a serious decline in health or ability to function. Our program was created to assist patients and their loved ones.

Q. *When am I or my loved one ready for Pathways Palliative Care?*

Care can begin when you are faced with the stress of a life-limiting illness and feel you need help. There is no need to wait for the benefits and resources that Pathways Palliative Care program can provide.

Q. *Is there a cost associated with Pathways Palliative Care?*

There is no cost to be a client on the Pathways Palliative Care program. This service is provided and funded by Hospice of the North Coast, commercial insurance, Medicare or Medi-Cal.

Q. *If I seek assistance from Pathways Palliative Care Program can I still see my own doctor?*

Yes. Pathways Palliative Care program does not interfere with your medical care or treatment. This program is a palliative, psych-social model, developed for education and support. However, we would be happy to offer your physician a palliative consult.



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The path may not be easy, but take heart:

We accompany you each step along the way.

PATHWAYS PALLIATIVE CARE

is a program at Hospice of the North Coast that is tailored to meet the unique needs of people living with chronic, life-challenging illness. Pathways Palliative Care treats the whole person. This means it treats physical, spiritual and emotional needs. The care team doesn't just manage pain. It shows patients how to best cope with the illness. The care team also offers counseling, emotional support and family support.

The following features characterize palliative care philosophy and delivery:

- Care is provided and services are coordinated by an interdisciplinary team
- Patients, families, palliative and non-palliative health care providers collaborate and communicate about care needs
- Services are available concurrently with or independent of curative or life-prolonging care
- Patient and family hopes for peace and dignity are supported throughout the course of illness, during the dying process, and after death

PATHWAYS PALLIATIVE CARE OFFERS:

- Nurse Practitioner Visits
- Social Worker - LCSW
- Education
- Counseling
- Assistance with Advance Care Planning and POLST
- Spiritual Support
- Information and assistance with Veterans benefits



WHY PALLIATIVE CARE?

How is this different from traditional hospice care? Where traditional hospice care is for individuals no longer seeking curative treatment, HNC's Pathways Palliative Care is available for seriously ill patients receiving active, curative treatment. Palliative Care is appropriate for anyone, at any stage in their illness, and can be provided anywhere you call home. The Palliative Care team works with the primary or treating physician to manage symptoms and assist the patient in identifying goals of care and how best to meet them.