

Looking for Relief While Going Through Cancer?

Palliative care can help at any stage of your journey.

What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is specialized care that focuses on relieving pain and symptoms of serious illness while helping you cope with side effects of treatment.

Is Palliative and Hospice Care the Same?

Often confused with hospice, palliative care can help you in any stage of treatment to help you feel better and improve your well-being.

Whether you're newly diagnosed, in treatment, or finished with treatment, palliative care can support you.

What is the Difference Between Palliative Care and Hospice?

Palliative Care		Hospice
Focuses on managing pain and symptoms from cancer and treatment to improve overall well-being and quality of life.	Goal	Focuses on care for cancer patients near the end of life, prioritizing comfort instead of treatment to improve quality of life.
Available at any point during your cancer care, even right after diagnosis. There are no time limits.	When	Provides comfort as cancer treatment ends and the focus shifts to end-of-life care.
Offered at local clinics, hospitals, cancer centers, or at your home.	Where	Offered at hospice centers, retirement communities, hospitals, or at your home.
Oncologists, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, physical therapists, and interfaith chaplains work together relieving symptoms and stress of your illness.	Team	Hospice physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, home aides, and interfaith chaplains provide end-of-life care and support.



How Can Palliative Care Improve My Life?

Palliative care helps support your physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.

Physical Needs

- Pain from cancer
- Nausea or vomiting
- Loss of appetite



Emotional Needs

- Anxiety about cancer
- Depression or sadness
- Loss of control
- Fear of dying



Non-Medical Needs

- Caregiver support
- Financial support
- Food and nutrition support
- Transportation
- Housing support



Spiritual Needs

- Spiritual and faith-based support
- Connection to support groups
- Creating connection with loved ones



Why Should I Consider Palliative Care?

Palliative care can help improve your quality of life.

Do You Have These Concerns?

- Do you have pain, tiredness, nausea, or other symptoms from cancer or medical treatments?
- Do you feel stressed, worried, or anxious because of cancer?
- Do you need help with side effects from chemotherapy, radiation, or surgery?

What Is Palliative Care Like?

- Helps you stay active and do the things you enjoy.
- Gives clear, honest information about your cancer and treatment options.
- Supports your family and caregivers.

Will My Insurance Cover It?

- Most insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid, cover palliative care.
- For help with coverage, contact your insurance provider or a social worker.

Who Can Help Me Get Started?

- You can start by asking your doctor or nurse about palliative care.
- If your care team does not offer palliative care, ask your doctors for a referral to palliative care, or visit getpalliativecare.org to find services near you.

For additional resources on palliative care and general cancer information, please visit the MOQC search engine.

MOQC Search Engine



Palliative Care
Provider Directory

