

PALLIATIVE CARE INTEGRAL TO CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE



What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is holistic care that identifies, assesses and addresses the comprehensive needs of people experiencing serious illness, including pain and other symptoms, social, emotional and spiritual needs.



Who Receives Palliative Care?

Palliative care is for anyone diagnosed with a serious illness, regardless of age or stage of their illness. Palliative care can be delivered simultaneously with treatments aimed at curing or delivered by itself when a cure is no longer an option.



Palliative Care + Catholic Health Care

Palliative care is integral to Catholic health care, deeply linked to Catholic tradition and values; embodying our commitment to provide compassionate care for the seriously ill.

OUR CALL TO CARE

“What is hardest to face is the process of dying itself, especially the dependency, the helplessness, and the pain that so often accompany terminal illness. One of the primary purposes of medicine in caring for the dying is the relief of pain and the suffering caused by it. Effective management of pain in all forms is critical in the appropriate care of the dying.”

ETHICAL AND RELIGIOUS DIRECTIVES FOR CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PART OF OUR TRADITION

“We can and must always care for the living, without ourselves shortening their life, but also without futilely resisting their death. This approach is reflected in palliative care.”

POPE FRANCIS

“Palliative care centres provide integral care, offering the sick the human assistance and spiritual accompaniment they need.”

POPE BENEDICT XVI

“ ... make suffering more bearable in the final stages of illness and to ensure that the patient is supported and accompanied.”

POPE JOHN PAUL II

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