

North Simcoe Muskoka Hospice Palliative Care Network

Consultant Services both in and outside of the Hospital

Palliative Nurse Consultant Referral Guide



Please make a referral to a **NSMHPCN Palliative Nurse Consultant** for the following:

ADVANCED FOCUSED SYMPTOM ASSESSMENT

I. Pain

- o New onset neuropathic pain, metastatic pain, visceral pain, total pain (psychological, spiritual, physical)
- o WHO Ladder for pain control, analgesic regime, adjuvant therapy (NSAIDs, steroids, TCAs, anticonvulsants), opioids, transdermal, opioid rotation, opioids with a history of substance abuse
- o management of breakthrough pain, opioid neurotoxicity, dose titration

II. Symptom Management - SOB, delirium, heart failure

III. Existential and Spiritual Suffering - thoughts about the dying process, struggles around the state of being, difficulty in finding a sense of self, loss of hope, loss of autonomy, and loss of temporality – the state of existing

DISCUSSIONS

I. Goals of Care Conversations

II. Advance Care Planning – reflecting on care preferences for the end of life based on values and wishes and identifying someone to make decisions on one's behalf (is NOT synonymous with DNR)

III. Family Care Conferences

EDUCATION

- o Formal courses delivered on-site
- o Informal teaching one-to-one based on patient's needs
- o Informal teaching one-to-one based on healthcare professional's needs

Other roles that we interact with include:

Primary Care Team

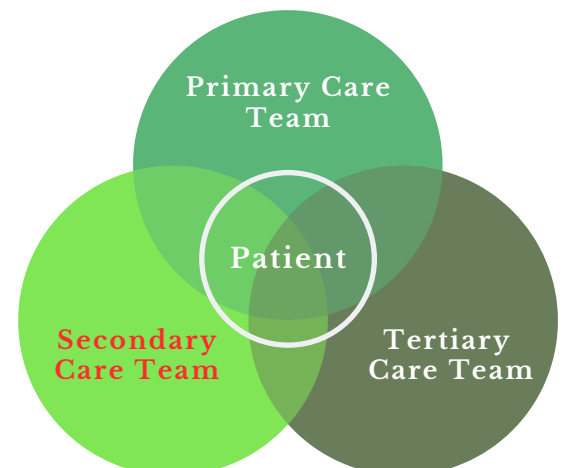
- MD/NP (Clinical Management)
- HCC Coordinator (Coordination of Patient Care)
- Community Agency Nurse (Direct Patient Care)
- Hospital Nurse (Direct Patient Care)

Secondary Care Team

- NSMHPCN Palliative Nurse Consultants

Tertiary Care Team

- Palliative Care Specialist Units (short stay management of complex issues)
- Radiation Oncologist (symptom control to improve quality of life)





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DISCUSSIONS

- I. Goals of Care Conversations
- II. Advance Care Planning – reflecting on care preferences for the end of life based on values and wishes and identifying someone to make decisions on one’s behalf (is NOT synonymous with DNR)
- III. Family Care Conferences

EDUCATION

- Formal courses delivered on-site and online.
- Informal teaching one-to-one based on patient’s needs.
- Informal teaching one-to-one based on healthcare professional’s needs.

Other roles that we interact with include:

PRIMARY CARE TEAM

- MD/NP (Clinical Management)
- HCC Coordinator (Coordination of Patient Care)
- Community Agency Nurse (Direct Patient Care)
- Hospital Nurse (Direct Patient Care)

SECONDARY CARE TEAM

- NSMHPCN Palliative Nurse Consultants

TERTIARY CARE TEAM

- Palliative Care Specialist Units (short stay management of complex issues)
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