



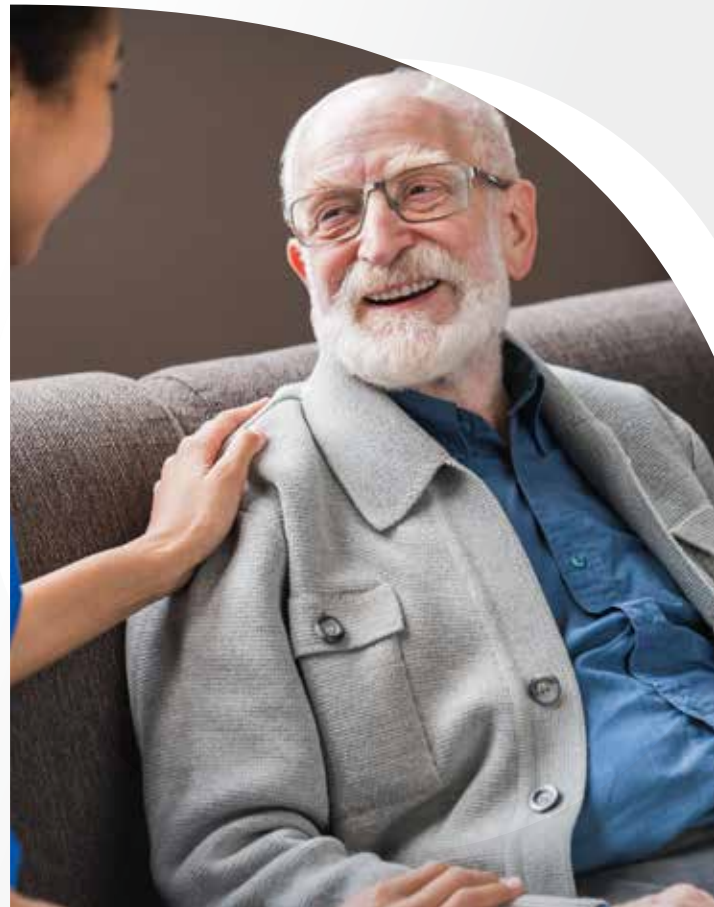
Palliative Care

Information for
patients and families



visit us at
[memorial.health](https://www.memorial.health)

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What is Palliative Care?

Palliative (pronounced pal-lee-uh-tiv) care is specialized care for people living with serious illness.

This type of care is focused on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of the illness. At Memorial Health, our Palliative Care team is committed to improving quality of life for both the patient and the family.

Working in partnership with the patient's other providers, the Palliative Care team can help patients with serious illness and their families by:

- Ensuring that care is matched to goals and priorities
- Providing counseling and support
- Facilitating family meetings with the healthcare team
- Educating patients and families about what to expect in the future
- Communicating and coordinating with the healthcare team
- Recommending approaches for the management of physical and emotional symptoms
- Assisting with the identification of a surrogate decision-maker

WHEN TO REQUEST PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative care may be appropriate if the patient has a serious illness and:

- Declining ability to complete activities of daily living
- Frequent hospitalizations
- Difficult-to-control physical or emotional symptoms
- Uncertainty regarding prognosis or treatment options
- Limited social support
- Spiritual distress

Palliative care is based on the needs of the patient, not on the patient's diagnosis or prognosis and can be appropriate at any age or stage of serious illness.

HOW CAN I REQUEST PALLIATIVE CARE?

Ask your physician or another member from the medical team for a referral. For more information, call Palliative Care at 217-788-5565.