

AHS Palliative Home Care

AHS Palliative Home Care (Adults)* is a publicly-funded program for adults with a life-limiting illness or nearing the end of life. The purpose of Palliative Home Care is to provide comfort and enable care for adults and their family / caregivers in their homes.

In the Edmonton Zone, a range of professional and personal care services support clients and family / caregivers.

Health professionals assess, plan, coordinate, and provide care. They develop your care plan, manage symptoms, communicate with other professionals, and anticipate future health care needs.

- Example: Registered nurse, occupational therapist, social worker, and registered respiratory therapist.

Personal care providers help with some of your daily needs. They do not replace your efforts to care for yourself, along with the help of your family, friends, and other available resources.

- Example: Health care aides.

You may wish to explore personal and private options for personal care and homemaking, such as laundry, housecleaning, and banking.

- Example: Your neighbour may shop for your groceries or you may arrange to have them delivered.

*The Stollery Children's Hospital (Edmonton) Aid for Symptoms & Serious Illness Support Team (ASSIST) supports children's palliative home care.

Edmonton Zone Continuing Care

AHS Continuing Care has programs and services to help you receive the right care in the right place at the right time.

To request Palliative Home Care services in the Edmonton Zone contact:

Continuing Care Access (CCA)

Phone: 780-496-1300

or

Fax: 780-496-8438

For general inquiries email:

EZPCP@ahs.ca



Palliative and End of Life Care Online Resources

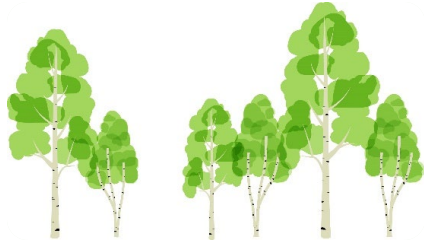
AHS: Palliative and End of Life Care
albertahealthservices.ca/info/Page14778.aspx

MyHealth Alberta:
Palliative and End of Life Care
myhealth.alberta.ca/palliative-care

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Palliative Care Program
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Alberta Health Services (AHS)
Edmonton Zone Continuing Care

Palliative Home Care Program for Adults



Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for Palliative Home Care?

Adults (18+) with:

- a life limiting illness or diagnosis
- a valid Alberta Health Care card
- a residence / home where your care needs can be safely met

How can I get Palliative Home Care?

You can request Palliative Home Care by calling 780-496-1300. A family member, friend, neighbour, or health professional can call on your behalf.

How are my Palliative Home Care needs determined?

You, your family members and / or caregivers, and your case manager will create a plan of care that is specific to you. A team of health care professionals will assist in determining and supporting your care needs in your home when possible. Your care plan may change over time with your illness, needs, and wishes.

Telephone and in-person visits by staff and personal care services are usually by appointment.

Your Palliative Home Care Team

Professional Staff

Your **case manager** will be your primary contact. Palliative Home Care case managers are nurses that complete an assessment and coordinate your care and services. They work closely with you, your family, other members of the Palliative Home Care team, and your family physician / nurse practitioner.

Various professional members of the Palliative Home Care team may see and be involved in your care, including **registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nurse practitioners, occupational therapists, registered respiratory therapists, and social workers**. They may visit you to anticipate your future needs or to provide care to you and your family / caregivers during your illness. They may communicate with your pharmacist. You may be referred to other services.

Examples of care and services provided by professional team members include:

- Screening and intake
- Assessment of health status
- Assessment of medical conditions
- Assessment of activities and abilities
- Assessment for equipment
- Starting or monitoring oxygen
- Starting or monitoring fluids
- Teaching about medications
- Teaching about procedures
- Planning for preferred place of death

Personal Care Services

The type and amount of personal care required to support you at home depends on your unique care needs. Your case manager will assess your needs throughout your illness and advise, plan, and coordinate your personal care services and needs. **Health care aides** or other providers may be contracted through an agency.

Care provided by personal care providers include:

- bathing and grooming
- dressing and undressing
- toileting and incontinence care
- mobilization and transferring
- medication assistance

After Hours or Urgent Care

Palliative Home Care enables support in the home when it is possible and it is in line with your goals and wishes.

Palliative Home Care does not provide emergency or continuous care. After hour on-call nurses are available along with other resources such as oxygen vendors. A professional can assess your symptoms and call paramedics if urgent support is required in the home.

