

Responding to a Pain Crisis



Severe pain and distress can occur at any stage of a life-limiting illness. A pain crisis can be averted, and does not always require a trip to emergency!

Resources available for Alberta Continuing Care clients include:

Consultation: Physicians can access a [24/7 Palliative Physician On-Call Service](#). Advice provided may allow individuals with pain to be treated either at their location or in acute care, to match their Goals of Care and wishes.

Treatment: A healthcare provider can call EMS and request the [EMS Palliative and End-of-Life Care Assess, Treat & Refer Program](#) (EMS PEOLC ATR). EMS and paramedics collaborate with the onsite clinician, and consult with the responsible physician and a palliative physician. They can administer emergency medications to treat symptoms like pain, shortness of breath, and delirium.

Looking for more resources? Check out:

- [AHS Palliative & End of Life Care \(PEOLC\)](#)
- [Symptom Assessment Tools](#)
- [Zone Specific PEOLC Programs and Services](#)
- [Zone Specific Referral Information](#)

Questions? Contact palliative.care@ahs.ca