

# Palliative Care Department

## *Palliative Care Explained*

Palliative care is a specialized medical field that helps people who have been diagnosed with a serious, progressive illness. It is appropriate at any age and at any stage of an illness. It is important to know that palliative care can be provided along with curative treatment.

We focus on a whole-person treatment approach for the physical, psychological, social and spiritual aspects of an illness, providing patients with relief from the symptoms, pain and stress. The goal is to maximize quality of life for both the patient and their family.

To meet with a palliative care team member, please ask your doctor to order a palliative care consultation. For further information, contact the Palliative Care Department at (626) 397-3737.

## *What is the difference between palliative care and hospice care?*

Palliative care is not the same thing as hospice care. The palliative care team's support is available as soon as a patient has received the diagnosis of a serious, progressive illness. It is offered in the hospital and in an outpatient clinic setting. Arrangements may be made for in-home palliative care through one of our community partners.



Hospice care is generally offered in the last six months of a terminal illness when a patient is no longer seeking curative treatment or hospitalization, but wishes to maximize their comfort and quality of life. It is provided in the home or a skilled nursing facility.

(626) 397-3737  
[huntingtonhealth.org](http://huntingtonhealth.org)