

Palliative Care Pathway (elements for clinician discussion)

EARLY

Medical information

- Knowledge about condition
- Medical support to patient
- Trajectory of disease
- Care coordination
- Home visits
- Emergency carer support plan
- 24hr health/crisis care plan

Advance Care Planning (ACP) & Advance Care Directive (ACD)

Financial & legal supports

- Carer Benefits – Centrelink
- Funeral – prepaid
- Bereavement payment – Centrelink
- Office of the Public Guardian
- Public Trustee or Solicitor (Wills & Estate)
- Superannuation Fund

Practical support at home

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

- HACC services – practical help, housework & respite for carers
- Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre – respite, emergency respite & carer support
- Home Hospice – developing networks of care for carers

END OF LIFE CARE

Essential forward planning

Review & update ACP & ACD.

Confirm:

- After hours/weekend plan
- Medication supply in advance
- Funeral arrangements

End of life care at home

- Central Coast Palliative Care Service
- Community Nursing
- GP Home visits
- Specialist Private Nursing providers

Emotional & carer support

- Family & Friends
- GP/Practice Nurse
- Religious/spiritual leaders
- Palliative Care Service
- Carers Counselling Service (Carers NSW)
- Home Hospice

AFTERWARD

Bereavement

- Family & friends
- Religious & Spiritual leaders
- Palliative Care Bereavement Service
- Support Groups & Community Networks
- Commonwealth Carer Counselling Service

Suggested Reading: • *A Guidebook Supporting End of Life Care at Home and ACP Workbook & Workshop Sessions (Carer Support Unit 4320 5556)* • *Carers Handbook – Carers Australia* • *Asking Questions can Help – Palliative Care Australia*

Developed by the Carer Support Unit (NSCCAHS) – (02) 4320 5556 with Department of Veterans Affairs Innovative Funding