



Hospice palliative care provides physical, emotional and spiritual care and support for individuals and their loved ones and can be provided in any setting, at home, in hospital or care facility. A multidisciplinary team provides expert gentle care to individuals with serious, progressive illness when cure is not expected, including caregiver support and bereavement support.



End of Life Planning

Advanced Health Care Directives

- Choose your level of care and communicate your choices to family and medical professionals. Connect with the "Team".
- With the right support and information patients and families can expect comfort care and quality of life in their care setting.
- Referrals are often made by family physicians, but individuals can access the Hospice Palliative team by self referral, or by talking to nursing staff.

Palliative Care Emergencies

At any time during the course of advanced illness, sudden changes can occur. If patients have uncontrolled pain or nausea, difficult breathing, bleeding or seizures, professional medical care is needed. For patients at home please follow the steps below.

1. Call the Family Dr.
2. Call your Home Care Nurse (8:00am to 9:00pm)
3. Go to the Emergency Dept.

Many patients can return to care at home once symptoms are stabilized.

My Doctor: _____

Phone number: _____

On Call Number: _____

Resources

Hospice Palliative Care In The Comox Valley



The following resources are available in the Comox Valley to assist individuals and their families facing the end of life:



B.C. Cancer Connection Line

Phone: 1-888-939-3333

“Support is just a phone call away”

B.C. Cancer Agency

Phone: 1-800-670-3322 Victoria

Web: www.bccancer.bc.ca

- Resources
- Symptom management
- Types of cancer
- Treatment options
- Unconventional therapies

Canadian Cancer Society

Phone: (250) 338-5454

Address: #102-1509 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2K6

Web: www.cancer.ca

Hours: Mon - Fri: 10:00am - 4:00pm

- Information, patient services program
- Emergency financial aid
- Volunteer drivers, bus transportation
- Support groups - Breast cancer, prostate cancer, ovarian cancer, lymphoma/leukemia
- Accommodations
- Vancouver Island Lodge (250) 592-2662;
- Vancouver Lodge 604-879-9131

Home & Community Care

Phone: (250) 338-5453

941A England Avenue, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2N7

Hours: Daily: 8:00am – 9:00pm

- Home nursing care
- Home support care
- Palliative care
- Physio/occupational therapy
- Meals on wheels
- Respite services
- Social worker

Hospice Society (Comox Valley)

Phone: (250) 339-5533

email: cvhs1@telus.net

Address: 2137 Comox Avenue, Comox, B.C. V9M 1P2

Services provided through volunteers and grief counselors include:

- Emotional support & companionship
- In home visits
- Hospital/ECU visits
- Reiki/Healing Touch
- Respite
- Vigil support
- Counseling
- Grief groups
- After hours phone line
- Lending library

St. Joseph's General Hospital

Phone: (250) 339-2242

Address: 2137 Comox Avenue, Comox, B.C. V9M 1P2

- Emergency care
- Discharge planning
- Cancer care/chemotherapy
- Medical/surgical outreach nurse
- Nutritional counseling
- Outpatient care
- Chemotherapy outpatient pharmacy for prescription only
- Palliative care
- Spiritual/emotional support (home visits)
- Physio/occupational therapy
- Social worker

Nursing Centre

Phone: 250-331-8502 and 250-331-8503

Address: 615 10th Street Courtenay, BC V9N 1R2

Hours: Mon - Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm

- Information about health services
- Library
- Referrals to health care resources
- Chronic disease information
- Support groups
- Chronic pain

- Therapeutic relaxation
- Seizure disorder
- Life-threatening illness

Older Adult Mental Health & Addictions

Phone: (250) 703 0491

Address: 200-635 Fitzgerald Ave., Courtenay, B.C.

- In home visits
- Support and counselling

Red Cross Loan Cupboard

Phone: (250) 334-1557

Address: 464 Puntledge Road, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3R1

Hours: Mon - Fri: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Fax: (250) 334-3974

- 90 day loan of equipment
 - Wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, bath seats, etc.
 - Equipment loan, including beds
- No referral necessary

Financial Assistance

- Palliative Drug & Equipment Benefit
- Pharmacare coverage of many prescription drugs
- Coverage for certain equipment and supplies. RN/PT/OT will assist.
- Medical Employment Insurance
- Ministry of Human Resources
- Canadian Pension Plan (CPP)
- Health Canada 1st Nations and Inuit Health
- Department of Indian Affairs
- Compassionate Leave (E. I. benefit) For those who take time off work to care for a gravely ill child, spouse, or parent - Eligible workers are entitled to a 6 week leave (with pay)

www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/ei/types/compassionate_care.shtml

Internet Links & Websites

B.C. Hospice Palliative Care (www.hospicebc.org)

1 Griefworks BC - www.griefworksbc.com

www.virtualhospice.ca

www.Dyingwell.org