

Information Sheet for Patients / Families Referred to the St. Peter's Palliative Care Program, HHS

Patient Name: _____

St. Peter's Palliative Care Program provides in-patient beds for dying patients who are in the final stages of their illness. Members of the Palliative Care team provide skilled, comprehensive and compassionate care for the dying and their families. Care focuses on maintaining the quality of life, comfort, autonomy and dignity of each patient through the assessment and management of potentially distressing symptoms.

Palliative Care:

- ❖ Affirms life
- ❖ Regards life and dying as a normal process
- ❖ Provides relief from pain and other distressing symptoms
- ❖ Supports the spiritual needs of the patient
- ❖ Offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death
- ❖ Offers a support system to help the family cope during the patient's illness and in their bereavement

People Admitted to the Palliative Care Program include those who meet ALL criteria below:

- ❖ Are in the final stages of a life threatening illness
- ❖ Have care needs that cannot be met at home or in another setting with the available resources (**Not eligible for LTC**)
- ❖ Have a life expectancy ranging from several hours up to several months duration (**usually under 6 months**)
- ❖ Require the expertise of an on-site palliative care interdisciplinary team for the management of pain and other troubling issues
- ❖ Have goals of care promoting a comfort approach rather than aggressive treatment
- ❖ Do not require day-to-day services of an acute care hospital
- ❖ Are aged 18 years or older

Tours of our program can be arranged by calling:

905-521-2100 x12250 or x12234 (Pre-booked Tours occur between 4pm – 7pm every Mon – Fri) – Call to book during business hours

CPR Code Status:

Generally, patients who are referred to a Palliative Care Program are expected to die from their primary diagnosis in the foreseeable future. They are considered very poor candidates for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and placement on a ventilator. The majority of patients referred to this program have an "Allow Natural Death (AND) Order" (often called a "Do Not Resuscitate Order" or a "No Code Order"). St. Peter's Hospital Site is a Complex Care Hospital (often referred to as a Chronic Care Hospital). We are not an Acute Care Site, so there is no on-site Emergency Department or Intensive Care Unit.

If you wish to receive CPR in the event of an arrest, St. Peter's Hospital, HHS can only provide the following:

Basic Life Support Procedures at St. Peter's:

- ❖ Basic Life Support (BLS) procedures include bag-mask ventilation, chest compressions, and use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to analyze the heart rhythm and deliver a shock if indicated
- ❖ 911 is called and BLS procedures are maintained until the arrival of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel and ambulance
- ❖ EMS takes control of the scene and transports the patient to an acute care facility if vital signs are present

Referral Source – This section MUST be completed and accompany the referral:

- I have reviewed the above information with _____ (patient name) and/or _____ (SDM name).
- This patient is: "No Code" for CPR _____ "Full Code" for CPR _____*
- I have included a copy of a completed POST or Advance Directive Document, if available.
- I acknowledge the importance of notifying SPH Palliative Care Program, if this patient's status or disposition changes.
- I have given the patient / family a copy of this information sheet.

MAID – check below when this applies:

- MAID has been requested / discussed and a written summary of the status of MAID is included.

Form Completed By: _____ (print) _____ (sign)

Profession: _____ Date: _____

*Patients wishing a Full Code Status will require a review by one of our physicians prior to acceptance to the Program waiting list.