



Paramedics Providing Palliative Care at Home

Many people express the wish to be cared for in the familiarity and comfort of their own home. Planning this care with the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Team can help patients, families and care givers get the support they need to be comfortable at home. Avoiding an unplanned transfer to hospital during palliative care will be part of the support provided to assist patients who want to remain at home.

This service also provides an additional support to those palliative patients who would prefer to receive care at home.

For more information...

Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program in your area:

O'Leary	(902) 859-8730
Summerside	(902) 888-8440
Charlottetown	(902) 368-4790
Montague	(902) 838-0786
Souris	(902) 687 7096

HealthPEI.ca/PalliativeCare

Ambulance Services in PEI:

Tel: (902) 368-6237

HealthPEI.ca/AmbulanceServices

The Paramedics Providing Palliative Care at Home program is a joint initiative between Health PEI, Island EMS, Nova Scotia Emergency Health Services (EHS), Dalhousie University (Division of EMS) and Cancer Care Nova Scotia with financial support from the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer.



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Information for patients and families registered in the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program

Benefits of the After Hours Care Service

- Provides additional support for patients registered in the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program.
- Supports palliative patients who wish to remain at home, preventing unwanted visits to the hospital.
- Ensures your care plan is considered when paramedics provide **after hours*** care at home.

NOTES

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PARAMEDICS PROVIDING PALLIATIVE CARE AT HOME

Should a palliative patient experience an unexpected event while at home during **after hours***, in-home support is available through Island EMS. By calling 9-1-1, trained paramedics will help provide care and support to you/your loved one at home. There are no fees to 9-1-1 calls and interventions; fees may apply in the event of transport.

As part of this service, Island EMS paramedics are trained in palliative pain and symptom management. This ensures that a qualified emergency response team is able to support and manage unexpected palliative events, so you/your loved one does not need to go to the hospital if the preference is to stay home.

PATIENTS REGISTERED IN THE PROVINCIAL INTEGRATED PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM

Once you are registered with the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program, a health care team will work with you to develop a care plan. Should a paramedic be called to your home **after hours*** they will also follow the same care plan while helping you to remain at home. If you are not registered in the program and would like more information, please phone (902) 620-3045 or visit HealthPEI.ca/PalliativeCare.

**After hours is the time when your Home Care Nurse is not regularly available. Please consult with your Home Care Nursing team.*



HOW THE SERVICE WORKS...

If you are registered in the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program and you/your loved one needs **after hours*** care:

- Call 9-1-1**
- Tell them you/your loved one is registered with the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program and provide the patient's last name and registration number.
- The ambulance will arrive at your home with no lights or sirens.
- The paramedics who arrive at your home will work with the care plan developed by you and your health care team to assist you in remaining at home.
- Your care plan may, for example, instruct the paramedics to give additional pain medication or initiate therapy to assist you to be more comfortable in the home.
- The option will be available to take you to the emergency department if that is what you want to do.
- In some cases, the paramedics may tell you that it would be best to take you to the emergency department.
- The paramedics will work with your health care team to ensure that your Home Care Nurse is aware of the event.

** 9-1-1 is available at all times for anyone in an emergency situation. For patients registered in the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Program it is recommended that you contact your Home Care Nurse if help is needed to manage pain and symptoms during regular Home Care hours.