



Team Name: Palliative Care Team Lead: Director – Home Care, Palliative Care & Seniors Approved by: Regional Lead – Community & Continuing Care	Reference Number: CLI.5910.SG.004 Program Area: Palliative Care Policy Section: General
Issue Date: May 3, 2022 Review Date: Revision Date:	Subject: Discharge Planning for Palliative Care Patients from Hospital to Community

Use of pre-printed documents: Users are to refer to the electronic version of this document located on the Southern Health-Santé Sud Health Provider Site to ensure the most current document is consulted.

STANDARD GUIDELINE SUBJECT:

Discharge Planning for Palliative Care Patients from Hospital to Community.

PURPOSE:

- The purpose of this guideline is to provide direction when planning a discharge (care transition) for patients receiving palliative care.
- The Discharge Planning Checklist for Patients Receiving Palliative Care (CLI.5910.SG.001.FORM.01) assists care providers in determining what documents are required to support continuity of care and client safety at discharge (care transition).

DEFINITIONS:

Palliative Care – an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problems associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual.

Provincial Palliative Care Drug Access Program (PCDAP) - designed for people at the end stages of their illness, when the focus of care is on comfort. The Provincial Palliative Care Drug Access Program provides deductible-free coverage through Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- It is best to discuss and initiate a plan early in the patient’s admission when possible.
- Palliative Care nurses are consultative and work closely with the patient’s health care providers to manage the patient’s care and symptoms. They also work closely with Home Care in providing guidance and assisting them to meet the patient’s goals of care in the community. Palliative Care nurses are not an emergency service.

- Advance planning of Home care services e.g. Equipment, Home Care Attendant, Nursing, and Medical/Surgical supplies is essential to ensure safe discharge.
- Once the equipment is ordered, pick up can occur the next day at Materials Distribution Agency if the family has the ability to set up equipment, capacity and vehicle to pick up the equipment.
- Patients are responsible for the cost of transportation home via ambulance or other transportation services.

PROCEDURE:

- Confirm the patient is registered with the Regional Palliative Care Program. For patients not registered with the Regional Palliative Care Program, determine if the patient meets eligibility criteria.
- If patient meets eligibility criteria and is not registered, complete the Palliative Care Referral form (CLI.5910.PL.001.FORM.01) and fax to Palliative Care at 204-388-2049.
- The in-hospital care provider notifies the palliative care nurse in the patient's community of pending discharge.
- The Discharge Planning Checklist for Patients Receiving Palliative Care (CLI.5910.SG.001.FORM.01) is a reference guide to assist you in determining what may be required prior to discharge.
 - Home Care Referral (CLI.5410.PL.003.FORM.01) - required if services such as Home Care Attendant, Nursing, Equipment, Medical Surgical supplies are required.
 - Palliative Care Drug Access program (PCDAP) (CLI.5910.PL.001)
 - Home Oxygen Concentrator Program Medical Assessment/Referral Form (CLI.5411.PL.006.FORM.01).
 - Notification of Anticipated Death at Home Form (CLI.5910.PL.005.FORM.01).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

[CLI.5910.SG.004.FORM.01](#) Discharge Planning Checklist for Patients Receiving Palliative Care

REFERENCES:

CLI.5410.PL.003.FORM.01 Home Care Referral and Intake Process – Manitoba Home Care Program Basic Information Form

CLI.5411.PL.006.FORM.01 Home Oxygen Concentrator Program Medical Assessment/Referral

CLI.5910.PL.001.FORM.01 Palliative Care Referral Form

CLI.5910.PL.003.FORM.01 Palliative Care Drug Access Application

CLI.5910.PL.005.FORM.01 Notification on Anticipated Death at Home

World Health Organization (2014). Definition of Palliative Care. Available on-line:
<http://www.who.int/cancer/palliative/definition/en/>