Palliative care

Palliative care isn’t an easy subject for most of us.

It’s understandable if people feel scared when thinking about what help you might need if you live with a serious illness that isn’t getting better, or you are having to face dying from it. But inevitably some of us in North Manchester will need that care, or are already receiving it.

Palliative care is a team approach to providing care which improves the quality of life for patients and their families and helps them live as well as possible. It is for patients with all serious illnesses, not just those suffering from cancer.

We want to tell you about a new service in North Manchester and help you understand what you or your loved one can expect from us.

What will the service offer?

We want to make it easier for patients, and their carers to reach the people and services they need. The new service is bringing together professionals and trained volunteers, working together as one team, based in the heart of the community of North Manchester. This will provide a bridge between GP practices, hospitals and hospices to those being cared for at home or in residential care.

The service will provide you with support and advice whenever you need it. It aims to provide:

- Round-the-clock telephone advice, as well as visits and care in the home.
- Help with managing troublesome problems such as pain, sickness or feeling breathless.
- Ways for people to talk about what is important to them in their care. We want to work with them to fulfil those choices and decisions as far as we can. This may include staying at home rather than having to go into hospital at the end of life.
- Extra help at home when things are difficult, bringing support to carers.
- Dedicated professionals working together with patients and carers – seven days a week.

HOW CAN I CONTACT THE SERVICE?

If you feel that you or someone you care for might need The North Manchester Macmillan Palliative Care Support Service, please call: Direct line 0161 202 8920 or email pah-tr.Community-Macmillan-Service@nhs.net