Palliative Medicine

The mission of palliative medicine is to prevent and relieve suffering, while supporting the best possible quality of life for patients and their families, regardless of the nature or extent of the disease or the need for other therapies.

Palliative Medicine at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center integrates the emotional and spiritual well being of the patient and family into the management of pain and other physical symptoms of illness.

Palliative Medicine is here to guide patients and families who are making decisions while working towards their goals throughout their course of illness.

The Palliative Medicine team collaborates with professional and informal caregivers in various settings, to ensure coordination, communication and continuity of care across institutional and home care settings.

How to contribute:

The primary source of funding for the Palliative Medicine Program is charitable gifts. If you would like to help support the program at The Hershey Medical Center, please complete and return the form below. Contributions to the Palliative Medicine Program make a tremendous difference. Each tax-deductible gift is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated.

For more information visit us at:
www.pennstatehershey.org/web/palliativecare/home

Hershey Medical Center
Palliative Medicine, H106
500 University Drive
Hershey, PA 17033

Ph#: (717) 531 - 6263
Fx#: (717) 531 - 4328

I/We wish to contribute $ _______________________
in support of the Hershey Medical Center Palliative
Medicine Program.

Name ____________________________________________________________
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This gift is made in memory / honor of:
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...........................................................................................................
Our Providers:

Margaret Kreher, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine
Interim Medical Director of Palliative Medicine

Susan A. Glod, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Erica L. Smeltz, CRNP, ACHPN

Nancy C. Parson, PA-C

Greg Larsh, Chaplain

What is Palliative Medicine?

Palliative Medicine is medical care focused on providing comfort for the seriously ill through the relief of symptoms and stress. This type of medical care is useful at any stage of illness and can be provided along with curative treatments.

Our work is dedicated to our strong belief that individuals should live well and attain the highest quality of life, regardless of the nature or severity of their illness.

The Palliative Medicine Program is here for you. What to expect:

- Medical assessment and expert management of pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, constipation, nausea, loss of appetite and difficulty sleeping.
- Social service support and spiritual care for patients and families.
- Assistance in developing and communicating patient oriented treatment plans and goals of care.
- Support of primary treating team and consulting medical specialties.

“Palliative care affirms life by supporting the patient’s and family’s goals for the future, including their hopes for a cure or a prolonged life, as well as their hopes for peace and dignity throughout the course of their illness.”

The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine

The Sunflower has been chosen as the international symbol for Palliative Care as it suggests the sun, light and life. Sunflowers focus on the sunlight for stamina and strength, and thrive in adverse conditions. They turn to the light seeking the sun. They show strength and character in times of adversity. The philosophy of Palliative Care is to focus on the quality of life regardless of the nature or severity of illness.

“Palliative care affirms life by supporting the patient’s and family’s goals for the future, including their hopes for a cure or a prolonged life, as well as their hopes for peace and dignity throughout the course of their illness.”

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Linda S. Heisey, Secretary