



PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Ally's Palliative Care Program specializes in the relief of pain, symptoms and stress of serious illness. It is a *family centered* program that is designed to help patients and families manage their physical, emotional, spiritual, and practical challenges. We strive to optimize quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating the suffering of patients. **Ally's Palliative Care Program** provides comfort measures along with life-prolonging treatment with the use of our medical care plan following shared goals, values and priorities.

COLLABORATION OF SERVICES

- **Physician** works with patient and primary care physician to consult about patient's care and make home visits as needed.
- **Pharmacist** acts as a consultant to doctor and nurse in managing symptoms.
- **Chaplain** provides spiritual guidance and anticipatory grieving/bereavement assistance.
- **Nutritionist** assists with nutritional intervention.
- **Hospice** transitional option for impending crisis, end-of-life care and management.

OUR TEAM

- **Nurse** makes scheduled visits to the home to assess patient's symptoms and teach patient and caregiver how to provide care. A nurse is available by telephone 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
 - ❖ IV hydration and TPN
 - ❖ Pain management (PCA Pump)
 - ❖ IV Inotropic Management
 - ❖ Medication Management
- **Social worker** provides emotional and practical support for patient and family when dealing with the experience of unfamiliar responsibilities and complex emotions. They also help by connecting with community resources.
- **Home health aide** assists with Activity of Daily Living (ADLs) such as: bathing, dressing and other personal care needs with focus on safety and comfort. A nurse assists in arranging this service.
- **Physical, occupational and speech therapists** assist patient or caregiver in developing strategies for maintaining independence, preventing injury, and conserving energy.

ELIGIBILITY

Ally uses a Palliative Care Screening Tool which assists us in determining a patient's eligibility for our Palliative Care Program. Below are some criteria:

- Serious illnesses such as: lung disease, heart disease, cancer, neurological and neuromuscular diseases (Alzheimer's, Dementia, Parkinson's, ALS, Stroke), end-stage renal disease.
- It takes a considerable effort to leave home.
- Care can be safely provided in your home.