

NATIONAL HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE DAY FOR CHILDREN 2020

FAQ



1. What is pediatric hospice palliative care?

Pediatric hospice palliative care is specialized care for children and young adults who have been diagnosed with a serious illness. Palliative care can help patients find relief from the symptoms and stress that might be related to having a serious illness. Hospice palliative care can also provide support to the parents, family, and loved ones of a child or young adult who has a serious illness.

2. Who can receive pediatric palliative care?

Any child with a serious illness may receive pediatric hospice palliative care.

3. Who provides pediatric hospice palliative care?

Hospice palliative care is delivered by a team of doctors, nurses, and other caring people like social workers, chaplains, nutritionists, pharmacists, therapists, and others. A pediatric hospice palliative care team may also include child life specialists and therapists who specialize in the unique needs of young people.

4. When can a child start receiving hospice palliative care?

Hospice palliative care can be provided at any stage of a serious illness from diagnosis on.

5. Who pays for pediatric hospice palliative care?

Pediatric hospice palliative care is paid for in different ways across the country as it crosses many individually funded sectors. Funding also differs between communities, but many programs receive financial support from various sources, including health ministries, community organizations, hospitals, grants and philanthropic efforts.

Who pays often depends on whether care is being provided at home, in the hospital, in a hospice residence or other situation. There is usually no charge to families for hospice residences as they are partially covered by provincial health plans and the rest is raised through donations and community support. Bereavement support is often provided as part of hospice palliative care services offered in hospitals or by non-profit or volunteer organizations in the community.