# Gulfside Palliative Care





We are here to serve you and your loved ones as you face your chronic illness.

Our team of experts is ready to help you and create a personalized plan of care to help reduce pain and symptoms.

727-857-7380

www.Gulfside.org





Palliative Care is specialized medical care for people with serious, chronic illness. It focuses on providing patients with relief from symptoms and the stress of a serious illness - whatever the diagnosis.





## What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is comprehensive treatment that focuses on the discomfort, pain, symptoms and stress of living with a chronic illness. Its goal is to prevent and ease suffering, and improve your quality of life. Palliative care is not end-of-life hospice care.

Palliative care gives you a chance to live your life more comfortably. It provides relief from distressing symptoms including shortness of breath, fatigue, constipation, nausea, pain, loss of appetite, problems with sleep and many others.

Palliative care is available to you at any time during your illness, and you can receive palliative care at the same time you receive other treatments that are meant to cure your illness. Your Gulfside Palliative Care team will even work with you to help coordinate with your other healthcare providers.



# What can the Gulfside Palliative Care clinic team do for me?

- Provide assessment at the clinic by a nurse practitioner and the palliative care team
- Provide quality-of-life improvements through various medical treatments at the clinic
- Provide support in decision-making and guidance to patients, physicians, nurses and family caregivers concerning treatment options and care planning
- Consult with caregivers, medical and nursing staff on how to talk about palliative care with patients and families
- Provide individualized care and resources for coping with denial, depression, loss and grief
- Identify eligibility and coordinate services for home care and equipment, Hospice, Medicaid, Medicare, VA benefits and other resources

## Benefits of Palliative Care

There are many benefits of palliative care for both patients and their families. Gulfside Palliative Care is here to help with:

#### **Preventing Hospitilization**

When symptoms of a serious illness are managed by the palliative care clinic team, patients are better equipped to manage their illness at home, leading to fewer repeat hospital visits. Patients can contact the palliative clinic team when help is needed rather than making a trip to the hospital. This means more time at home and less expenses for the patient and family.

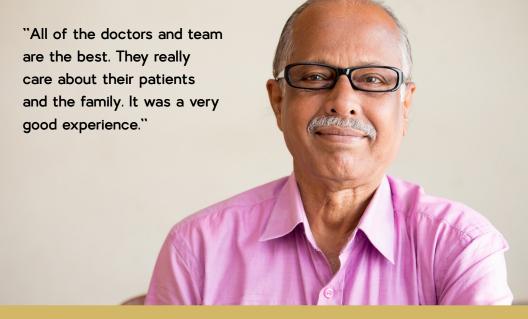
#### Symptom Management

During visits to the clinic, the palliative care team identifies and creates a plan to treat your sources of discomfort, and addresses pain that is related to your serious chronic diagnosis. Symptoms may include problems with breathing, fatique, depression, bowel/bladder or insomnia.

#### Communication & Coordination at the Clinic

Members of the care team are focused on clear channels of communication. We put great importance on communication between you, your family and all of your doctors in order to ensure that your needs are fully met. This includes establishing goals and a plan for your care, help with decision making, and coordination of care.





## Who qualifies for Palliative Care?

Patients at any age and any stage of a serious, chronic illness can be eligible receive non-hospice palliative care at the clinics. Palliative care is available to you at any time during your illness, and you can receive palliative care at the same time you receive other treatments that are meant to cure your illness.

Palliative care is offered to patients who meet the following criteria:

- Frequent ER visits or hospital admissions for the same condition
- Diagnosis of a chronic condition or illness, such as dementia,
  COPD, heart disease, liver disease, renal disease and neurological disorders

If you believe you or your loved one could benefit from palliative services to help with a chronic illness, contact our team to schedule a consultation and discuss treatment options.

# Why go to a Gulfside Palliative Care clinic?

At Gulfside's palliative care clinics, patients receive care that is comprehensive treatment and focuses on the symptoms and stress of living with a chronic illness. The goal is to prevent and ease suffering, and improve your quality of life.

#### Palliative care is not end-of-life hospice care.

Palliative care gives you a chance to live your life more comfortably. It provides relief from distressing symptoms including shortness of breath, fatigue, constipation, nausea, loss of appetite, problems with sleep and many others.

Palliative care is available to you at any time during your illness, and you can receive treatments at the palliative care clinics at the same time you receive other curative-focused treatments. Your care team will even work with you to help coordinate with your other healthcare providers and develop a custom-tailored care plan that suits you and your lifestyle.

Palliative care is currently being offered to patients in West Pasco at Gulfside's Palliative Care Clinic in New Port Richey, and offered in East Pasco at Gulfside's Palliative Care Clinic in Zephyrhills.

### Clinic Locations:

#### West Pasco:

East Pasco:

New Port Richey, FL 34653

6117 Trouble Creek Road 5760 Dean Dairy Road Zephyrhills, FL 33541

# Frequently Asked Questions

#### Where is Palliative Care provided?

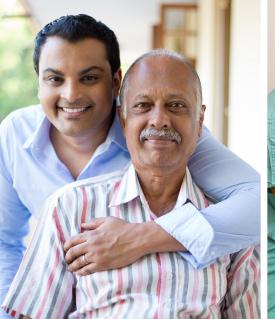
Palliative care services are currently offered at two Gulfside Palliative Care clinics located in New Port Richey and Zephyrhills.

#### Can I receive curative treatment together with palliative care?

Absolutely. Your treatment choices are up to you. You can still benefit from getting palliative care at the same time as treatment meant to cure you.

#### Do I have to give up my own doctor?

No. The palliative care clinic team provides an extra layer of support and works in partnership with your primary doctor. Your primary care physician will continue to direct your care and play an active role in your treatment at the clinic.





#### Will my insurance cover palliative treatments?

Most insurance plans cover all or part of the palliative care treatments you receive, just as with other hospital and medical services. This is also true of Medicare and Medicaid. If costs concern you, a social worker or financial consultant from our team can help you with payment options.

#### How do I know if palliative care is right for me?

Palliative care may be right for you if you are experiencing serious symptoms due to a chronic illness, including but are not limited to: cancer, cardiac disease, respiratory disease, kidney failure, Alzheimer's disease, AIDS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and multiple sclerosis.

#### Who provides palliative care?

Each patient meets with the team ARNP. Additional services can be provided by nurses and social workers as directed by the plan of care.

We know that facing a chronic illness can raise plenty of questions and uncertainty. Our team is here to help every step of the way. If you have a question that is not answered here, please feel free to contact us at any time.







It's never too soon to call Gulfside Palliative Care for help with pain management and serious illness.

Call today to schedule a consultation, and our team will work with you to create a customized plan of care to suit your needs.



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#### Clinics:

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5760 Dean Dairy Road Zephyrhills, FL 33541

Administration: 2061 Collier Parkway Land O' Lakes, FL 34639

