Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Nursing Team

Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Team are nurses who provide specialist palliative care and support to patients and families in their own homes.

Palliative care is an active holistic approach to managing and supporting people with cancer and other life-limiting conditions (e.g. Motor Neurone Disease, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Renal Failure and Heart Failure).

Many patients with troublesome symptoms benefit from the Palliative Care Service early in the course of their illness. However, you could be referred to Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Nurses at any stage following diagnosis.

How to access the Service

The Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Nurses work as part of a team liaising closely with GPs, District Nurses, Hospital Palliative Care Teams and other professionals such as Counsellors, Social Workers, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Dieticians.

They work in collaboration to ensure good lines of communication and initiate support for the patient and family, as needs determine, to help improve their quality of life.

Referrals are made in the following ways:
- From your GP
- District Nurse
- Palliative Care Team
- Hospital Doctors and Consultants
- Specialist Nurses

What happens at a first visit?

The Nurse will telephone and arrange a Home Visit to meet you and your family. She will give you time to discuss any physical or emotional symptoms you may have in relation to your illness, medications or any other issues.

The role of the Community Specialist Nurse

- Provide specialist nursing advice, care and support.
- Assess and help manage symptoms such as pain, nausea or breathlessness.
- Provide emotional and psychological support and help alleviate anxiety.
- Continue to review the patient on a regular basis to maintain good symptom control.
- Hospice Nurses can refer you to other support services if needed – e.g. Counselling, Physiotherapy, Dietician, Benefits Officer etc.
- Referral, if desired, to In Patient and Day Therapy Services.
Discharge

When symptoms are under control and you and your family/carers are coping with your condition it may be possible to discharge you from our service. However, should you feel the need for further support, you can ask your GP to refer you again.

Other Services available at Foyle Hospice

- Day Hospice/Therapy
- In Patient Care
- Counselling
- Bereavement Support Group (Adult and Children)

Availability

Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Nursing Team is available from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays)

Contact Foyle Hospice on
T: 028 71 351010

Cost of Care

There is no charge for Hospice Care to you, your family or your GP. It is available to everyone on the basis of need.

Foyle Hospice Community Specialist Nurses are sometimes confused with Macmillan or Marie Curie Nurses.

Whilst we work in collaboration with both these teams of nurses, Foyle Hospice is an independent registered charity. We depend on the ongoing support of the community in the north west.

Find out more about us

You can find out more about Foyle Hospice on our website www.foylehospice.com

Hospice Mission

Palliative Care (Hospice Care) is based on a philosophy which recognises the need to treat each person with dignity, respect and compassion, irrespective of their cultural or religious backgrounds.

The Hospice is committed to providing the best quality of life for our patients by supporting patients and families in an attentive, non-intrusive way and sharing truthful information in a sensitive manner.