



## QUESTIONS ABOUT SERIOUS ILLNESS

Start by asking your healthcare provider:

- Do I have a serious or life-limiting illness?
- Can my illness be cured?
- If my illness can't be cured, are there treatments that can slow it down?
- If my illness keeps getting worse, when is it a good time to think about getting comfort-focused care?
- Will you be the one to tell me when to contact hospice?
- Will you stay part of my care team even when I am no longer looking for treatment for my disease?



**For more information on palliative care, contact:**

OLMSTED MEDICAL CENTER —  
SOCIAL SERVICES

Olmsted Medical Center – Hospital  
1650 Fourth Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

direct-dial tel: 507.529.6806

or search “Palliative Care” at  
[www.olmstedmedicalcenter.org](http://www.olmstedmedicalcenter.org)

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# PALLIATIVE CARE

SPECIALIZED CARE FOR PEOPLE  
WITH SERIOUS ILLNESS



OLMSTED  
MEDICAL  
CENTER

210 Ninth Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
tel: 507.288.3443

GOOD HEALTH STARTS WITH GREAT CARE.®



OLMSTED  
MEDICAL  
CENTER



## COMPARING PALLIATIVE CARE TO HOSPICE

**Palliative care** (pal-ee-a-tiv care) can start even when you are receiving aggressive treatment for your illness. Hospice, on the other hand, is a type of palliative care for people seeking comfort care in the last six months of life.

Palliative care is a holistic approach that relieves discomfort, symptoms, and stress caused by a serious illness. The goal is to make you comfortable, improve your quality of care and quality of life, and increase satisfaction with care at Olmsted Medical Center for both you and your family. Care can also help lower visits to the emergency room and/or hospital stays.

Departments represented on the Palliative Care Consultation team include:

- Healthcare Home Nurses
- Hospitalists (Physicians)
- Nursing
- Nutrition Services (Dietitians)
- Pharmacy
- Psychology
- Rehab Therapy Services
- Social Services
- OMC Volunteer Chaplains



## PALLIATIVE CARE CONSULTATION

During your hospital stay, you and your family may meet with the Palliative Care team. This visit can take place in your hospital room or the hospital chapel.

**OMC's Palliative Care team has special training to help you and your family understand:**

- your specific health condition
- options for managing troublesome symptoms
- options for managing side effects of your current treatment.

**Our Palliative Care team will then better understand:**

- your expressed goals for care
- other needs you may have.

Along with providing medical, emotional, and spiritual resources, the Palliative Care team will keep your healthcare provider up to date on the outcome of the consultation.