PALLIATIVE CARE

PALLIATIVE MEDICINE SPECIALIST SERVICE

PURPOSE

The timely and appropriate referral of women to the Palliative Medicine Specialist Service.

WHO CAN/SHOULD BE REFERRED TO PALLIATIVE CARE?

Patients with a terminal illness who have physical symptoms (such as pain, nausea and vomiting, fatigue) or psychosocial ones (such as depression). Palliative care can also suggest ways of supporting family and caregivers. Patients do not have to be in the final dying phase to be referred.

Other services for patients with cancer include:

- Social Work
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Physiotherapy
- Psychological Medicine
- Community palliative care e.g. Silver Chain Hospice Care Service (Referral required)
- Cancer Council Help Line

PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES

PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES AT KEMH

These are currently provided by Dr Alice Phua and Dr David Thorne who attend the Thursday Gynaecology Oncology Clinic and the weekly multidisciplinary team meeting. They are also available for ward based consultations Monday to Friday. They can be contacted on their mobile phones.

PERTH SERVICES

Royal Perth Hospital, QEII and Fremantle Hospital have palliative care liaison services available for backup and advice to inpatients. However there are no dedicated beds in these hospitals.

There is 1 freestanding hospice in Perth: St John of God Murdoch Community Hospice with 20 beds.

There is an 18 bed palliative care unit at Hollywood Private Hospital and a 12 bed palliative care unit at Bethesda Private Hospital. All will admit both public and private patients.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Metropolitan Perth has care provided by the Silver Chain Hospice Service (SCHS). Nurses, doctors and other staff are available for 24 hour back up to patients in their own homes. Referrals are made on the referral form and faxed to 9444 7265 or a doctor can make a referral 24 hours a day by telephoning 9242 0242.

The Peel / Rockingham are has domiciliary care provided by Peel Community Palliative Care. The state has been divided into several regions. Each region is visited monthly by a Palliative Care specialist.

Geraldton, Bunbury, Albany and Northam have dedicated Palliative care services.
REFERENCES (STANDARDS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Standards – 1 Clinical Care</th>
<th>Legislation - Nil</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related Guidelines / Policies –</td>
<td>Palliative Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other related documents – Nil</td>
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RESPONSIBILITY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Policy Sponsor</th>
<th>Palliative Care Consultants</th>
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<td>Initial Endorsement</td>
<td>May 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Reviewed</td>
<td>May 2014</td>
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