

# — PALLIATIVE CARE —

A Part of Your Treatment

## WHAT IS IT?

Palliative care is care given to prevent or treat symptoms and side effects.

Palliative care can provide comfort and improve quality of life no matter where you are on your treatment path.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Lung cancer and its treatments can cause unwanted physical and emotional symptoms and side effects.

Palliative care is especially important in advanced lung cancer. Studies show that lung cancer patients who received palliative care early on and throughout their treatment not only had improved quality of life, but they also lived longer.

**YOU CAN RECEIVE  
PALLIATIVE CARE AT  
ANY POINT, ALONG  
WITH TREATMENT  
MEANT TO CURE YOU.**

## HOW WILL IT HELP ME?

Chemotherapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy and radiation can cause side effects like fatigue, anxiety, nausea and trouble eating. Lung cancer surgery and other treatments may also result in pain. Your palliative care team is specially trained to manage all of the side effects you might experience throughout your lung cancer treatments.



## GET STARTED

Ask your doctor if your treatment center has a palliative care team and make an appointment. If your treatment center does not have a palliative care team, you can ask your doctor for a palliative care referral.

## WHERE CAN I GET PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative care may be available in different settings, including hospitals, outpatient centers or a home. It is provided by a team of doctors and nurses who work together with your treatment team.

## WHAT NEXT?

When you meet with your palliative care team, they will assess your pain level and other symptoms. They will explore your goals with you so that your treatment options align with your goals every step of the way.

## WILL INSURANCE COVER PALLIATIVE CARE?

Yes. Most insurance plans, including Medicare, will cover palliative care as part of your lung cancer treatment.

## HOW IS IT DIFFERENT THAN HOSPICE CARE?

Hospice care is an option when a patient has six months or less to live. It is usually provided after active treatment has ended. While palliative care is an important part of hospice care, hospice care focuses on controlling pain and other symptoms for a comfortable end-of-life.