

Aside from any personal medical benefit, many people enjoy being able to contribute to medical and nursing knowledge that may help others in the future.

What studies may I be able to participate in?

There are several PaCCSC studies that are running at the same time. We aim to match people with the projects that most suit their needs.

Some current studies include:

Severe pain. This study examines the role of ketamine to treat severe and uncontrolled pain

Delirium. This study is looking at the affect of risperidone in treating delirium.

Obstruction of the bowel. This study is evaluating the role of octreotide to provide relief from the symptoms of a bowel obstruction.

Anorexia. This study is looking at the affect of megestrol acetate on its ability to improve appetite.

Itch. This study examines the use of ondansetron to control itch caused by liver disease.

Chronic pain. This study tests the effect of the anti-inflammatory medication, ketorolac, on chronic pain.

Would you like more information?

This pamphlet has been designed for the patients and families who might have been asked to consider a PaCCSC study and answers some of the frequently asked questions about participating in research.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the research team on:

Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative (PaCCSC)
Flinders University
700 Goodwood Road
Daw Park, South Australia, 5051



PaCCSC
Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative

Information about palliative care research through PaCCSC



Flinders University receives funding for PaCCSC from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing under the National Palliative Care Program.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is PaCCSC?

PaCCSC is a collaboration of palliative care researchers around Australia who together are testing the effectiveness of certain medicines currently used to control a variety of distressing symptoms.

If you agree to be contacted, you may be approached to be involved in one of our research studies.

What is palliative care?

Palliative care is specialised care and support provided for those living with a terminal illness.

The goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life for patients, their families and caregivers by providing care that addresses physical (including treatment of pain and other symptoms), emotional (reducing anxiety), social (maintaining roles and relationships within the family), cultural (respecting cultural beliefs) and spiritual (meaning of life) needs.

What is research?

Research is an organised way of finding answers to questions. It follows certain procedures in order to get the most accurate results. These results can then be used to improve the care of people.

Why do this research?

All of the studies are designed to give high quality information to assist in the treatment of common symptoms. We need to find better ways of providing treatment options and services to patients, caregivers and health care providers. Research provides us with information about the best possible treatments that are based on the most up-to-date evidence available.

All of the studies are designed to give high quality information to assist in treatment of these symptoms. The results may help to have these medicines subsidised by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. This may allow more people to have their symptoms treated at home.

How is research done?

Research projects will be approved by all the hospital and university human research ethics committees participating in the trials before a research team can approach people. The aim of the ethics committees is to protect the people participating in research. They do this by ensuring that all participants are informed of the procedures they are participating in, that the benefits of the research outweigh the risks of harm, and that their privacy is maintained.

In addition, there are very strict guidelines about research in palliative

care. At all times, the interests and well-being of patients and families are put first.

Can I say no?

Yes. It is entirely up to you whether or not you participate in research.

Will it affect the care that I receive?

No. Palliative care services provide the highest level of care available. Whether or not you choose to participate in research will not affect your care in any way.

Can I change my mind?

If you consent to participate in research, you can withdraw your consent at any time, without having to say why. This will not affect your care in any way.

Will my privacy be protected?

Yes. All personal information is treated in the strictest confidence. No information that could identify you will be used when reporting research findings.

Are there any benefits from participating in research?

Each study is different, we cannot guarantee that there will be any benefit to you, personally, from research participation.