



## Acute care pack contents

# Supporting hospital patients with palliative care needs

When a cure is not possible, it's appropriate to pivot to providing palliative care with its focus on quality of life. Increasing demands on hospitals for end-of-life care means all health professionals will need to help with palliative care.

This resource pack will assist you and your team in caring for hospital patients approaching the end of their life, their families and caregivers.

### A guide to using CareSearch for hospital-based health professionals

Find the most relevant information for those working in a hospital setting.

### Prognostication and triage tools list

A list of freely available tools to help identify patients with palliative care needs in the acute care setting.

### Recognising the need for palliative care: Tools to help you identify changes

The SPICT tools can be used to systematically assess for deterioration in a person's health and to identify unmet supportive and palliative care needs.

- SPICT Tool
- SPICT4ALL Tool

### Communication tools

Communication with patients at the end of life is essential for planning and decision-making but it can be challenging. These forms help to initiate conversations.

- The Nurse Mnemonic
- SPIKES: A six-step protocol for delivering bad news

### Detecting delirium

Delirium is common in palliative care patients and may be reversible, but it is often undiagnosed. The Confusion Assessment Method (CAM) Shortened Version Worksheet can be used with older people to determine if they should be assessed.

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