

Palliative Care Guide for GPs - Families and Carers



1 Patients and Carers

The [CareSearch patient and carers webpages](#) provide practical information and resources to help carers care for someone with a life-limiting illness. You can [order free booklets](#) to provide to carers and families.

2 End of Life Care

If dealing with patients for whom English is a second language, you can provide them with [end-of-life care information in different community languages](#). This can make it easier to patients, families and carers. You should also consider [the need for an interpreter](#).

3 What is Palliative Care

[What is palliative care factsheet](#) can provide information to families and carers on the scope of palliative care.

4 Advance Care Planning

Including carers and families in [advance care planning](#) can provide an opportunity to discuss, plan, and record the patients care preferences.

5 Life-limiting Illness

Provide factsheets on topics that are needed by patients, families and carers such as [Caring for Someone with Life-limiting Illness factsheet](#) or [Managing Life-limiting Illness with Medicines](#).

6 GP Checklist

Many people would prefer to die at home. The involvement of their GP is critical in enabling this for the patient and the family. The [GP Checklist](#) is an interactive checklist that can be downloaded and used to plan for a home death by the GP.

7 Carer Assessment

[Carer assessment](#) can help check their wellbeing in a stressful situation, help them understand what is happening and what is likely to happen, support self-efficacy and coping strategies, and offer timely referral.

8 At the End

[At the end factsheet](#) can prepare the family and carer with what to expect when the patient is dying.

9 Following up the Bereaved

GPs need to consider following up the patient's family following a death. [Following up the bereaved](#) provides useful advice for GPs assisting those who have experienced loss.

10 GP Hub

For more information go to the [GP Hub](#).

To view more support sheets in this series, visit caresearch.com.au/guidesforGPs



caresearch.com.au

CareSearch is funded by the Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

CARESEARCH[®]
palliative care knowledge network

 **Flinders
University**