

# Palliative Care Guide for GPs - Caring for Older People



## 1 Older Australia

General Practitioners have a pivotal role in providing and coordinating palliative care for older patients with life-limiting illness and their families. The [CareSearch Older Australia webpages](#) provide information and resources that families and older people can use.

## 2 GP Hub

The [GP Hub](#) provides a comprehensive overview of palliative care issues from the GP perspective. It includes tools, resources and information.

## 3 Multimorbidity

Comorbidity and multimorbidity can be specific concerns when caring for older patients. The [Multimorbidity page on palliAGED](#) provides helpful links and suggestions for practice.

## 4 Communication

Effective communication is essential for the delivery of high-quality care. However, sometimes communication regarding palliative care can be difficult. The [CareSearch Starting palliative care conversations guide](#) suggests practical ways to communicating with patients on prognosis and care goals.

## 5 Symptoms and Medicines

The [Symptoms and Medicines webpages](#) are a resource to guide evidence-based practice in the care of older people in the last days of their life.

## 6 Case conference

If considering a case conference to coordinate care, palliAGED has a set of forms that can help organise and document the [case conference](#).

## 7 MBS Items for GPs

The [CareSearch MBS items for General Practitioners webpage](#) provides a list of MBS items which GPs can use to be paid for the palliative care they provide to patients.

## 8 Pathways and Frameworks

To help coordinate the care of a patient with a life-limiting illness between health services the [CareSearch Pathways and Frameworks webpage](#) provides examples of care pathways, referral triggers and practical advice on care transitions.

## 9 Self-Care

It is well recognised that providing palliative care can be challenging, and that it is important that those providing palliative care practise self-care. The [CareSearch Self-care webpage](#) enables you to plan and practise self-care.

## 10 Ongoing Education

Building expertise in palliative care is easy with several options available through the [CareSearch Ongoing education webpages](#) which provide a wide range of education options.

To view more support sheets in this series, visit [caresearch.com.au/guidesforGPs](https://caresearch.com.au/guidesforGPs)



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

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