

Specialist Palliative Care Social Work



Specialist Palliative Care Social Workers are important members of Rowcroft's Community Team. We work with a diverse range of people in terms of age, diagnosis, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and culture.

What is a Specialist Palliative Care Social Worker?

Specialist Palliative Care Social Workers are experienced in working across the fields of health and social care and often provide a link between the two. We work with children and adults in their own homes although we can arrange to meet you elsewhere. We offer a wide range of support to patients and their families from emotional support to practical help with housing and accessing other services.

What are the aims of our services?

- To provide practical support, advice and signposting to other services
- To provide emotional and spiritual support in a situation that can often feel lonely and overwhelming
- To be a link between patients and their families and other services
- To provide specialist age appropriate resources for children and young people, e.g. books, memory boxes, links to bereavement support services



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- To support families in talking about illness to their children
- To support families in challenging situations
- To advocate for the needs, decisions and rights of patients in palliative and end of life care
- To provide support and information to other services and professionals.

How do patients access a Specialist Palliative Care Social Worker?

New referrals are made by Hospital Consultants, Specialist Nurses, GPs, District Nurses and other Health and Social Care professionals.

We offer periods of support and patients can re-refer themselves back to the service at any point.

What are the benefits to patients/carers?

- We can offer home visits, telephone consultations or outpatient appointments
- Ongoing emotional and psychological support
- Prompt response to patients' and families' needs
- Close working relationships with other health and social care organisations involved in the care of patients and their families
- Signposting/referrals to other agencies if and when appropriate
- Easy access to other Rowcroft services
- Optimise patients' and carers' quality of life

If you require this information in an alternative format please call 01803 210800