

About MGH's Palliative Care Program

The Palliative Care Unit is part of MGH's Palliative Care Program, which aims to improve the quality of life of patients and their families who are facing problems associated with life-threatening illness.

MGH's Palliative Care Program also includes:

- Outpatient Palliative Care Clinic
- Palliative Integrated Long-Term Care Program
- Palliative Care Consult Team

Please let our team know if you would like more information about these services.

Looking for more information about palliative care?

Please ask our team if you would like information about one of the following topics:

- Advance Care Planning and Goals of Care
- Approaching End of Life
- Coping with Grief
- Practical Matters such as funeral planning
- Substitute Decision Maker and Power of Attorney

Getting to MGH

MGH is located at 825 Coxwell Ave. in Toronto, Ontario.

For instructions for how to travel to the hospital by car or transit, please visit tehn.ca/your-visit/getting-here.

For information about parking, please visit tehn.ca/parking.

To get to MGH's Palliative Care Unit, go to the G/H Wing elevators located on the ground level near Diagnostic Imaging. Take these elevators to the fifth floor. You can also visit the Information Services desk to ask for directions.

Contacts in MGH's Palliative Care Unit

Team Station

416-469-6580 ext. 6150

Manager

416-469-6580 ext. 6627

Palliative Care Nurse Specialist

416-469-6580 ext. 7652

Social Worker

416-469-6580 ext. 3877

Call to book a tour of the unit

Spiritual Health

416-469-6580 ext. 6550

Medical Director

416-469-6580 ext. 2947



G5 Palliative Care Unit

**Division of
Complex Continuing
Care**

Welcome to MGH's Palliative Care Unit

The focus of our care is on living. Our Palliative Care team provides patients and families with:

- Supportive and compassionate care
- Help to clarify and achieve goals of care
- Management of distressing symptoms, such as pain, nausea and shortness of breath
- Holistic care: meeting physical, emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs
- Care focused on quality of life and comfort
- Support in your grief and bereavement

The life expectancy of patients on our Palliative Care Unit is usually three months or less.

A palliative care approach will neither hasten nor delay a natural death. If conditions stabilize or improve, life expectancy may be longer. In this case, we will explore with patients and families a transfer back home or a transfer to a more appropriate facility.

About our Palliative Care team

Our interprofessional team includes, but is not limited to, palliative care physicians, a palliative care nurse specialist, social worker, nurses and more. Resident physicians and other learners will also be involved in your care.

We work together to deliver care with expertise in pain and symptom management. Routine and regular visits by these healthcare providers during a patient's stay help to address individual needs like pain management and personal care (dressing, toileting, bathing).

About the Palliative Care Unit

Our unit has 22 beds. There are one-, two- and three-bed rooms. Rooms are allocated based on need.

The unit includes also a family kitchen, a lounge/dining room, a children's play space, garden terrace, laundry facilities, shower facilities and a small quiet room.

Interested in visiting a patient in MGH's Palliative Care Unit?

Visiting hours are flexible.

Overnight visits may be arranged.

Ask us about our pet visiting policy.

For patients and families

What should I bring to the unit?

Bring items that make you feel at home, such as your favourite blanket, comfortable clothing, pictures and mementos along with the usual toiletries and non-skid shoes or socks.

How can I help ensure I have the best experience possible in MGH's Palliative Care Unit?

Our Palliative Care team works with patients and families to develop goals of care and a care plan.

Please help us to identify your daily goals in order to make each day the best it can be.

For visitors

Families may tour the unit and meet with our team members to ask questions before making decisions related to a patient's admission. Admission priority is based on need.

Individuals coming to the Palliative Care Unit should always wash or sanitize their hands before and after visiting.