



**Penn Medicine**  
Abramson Cancer Center

## CONTACT US

Our staff is available to provide more information or to arrange palliative care services for patients; please call **800.789.PENN (7366)** or visit **[PennMedicine.org/palliative-care](http://PennMedicine.org/palliative-care)**.

To learn about supporting the Palliative and Supportive Oncology Clinic, please call the Penn Medicine Development Office at 215.898.0578 or email [Abramson-Gifts@upenn.edu](mailto:Abramson-Gifts@upenn.edu).

## LOCATIONS

### **Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine**

3400 Civic Center Boulevard  
4 West Pavilion  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

### **Pennsylvania Hospital**

Farm Journal Building  
230 West Washington Square  
Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19106



**Penn Medicine**  
800.789.PENN [PennMedicine.org](http://PennMedicine.org)

# PALLIATIVE & SUPPORTIVE ONCOLOGY *clinic*

*An extra layer of support for  
patients and families at any stage  
of a cancer diagnosis.*

# PALLIATIVE & SUPPORTIVE ONCOLOGY *clinic*

A cancer diagnosis can cause emotional and physical symptoms that may feel overwhelming. The Palliative and Supportive Oncology Clinic at Penn Medicine provides supportive services for patients who have been diagnosed with cancer and their families.

The clinic is a team of oncologists, nurses, social workers, and other supportive care providers who have specialized training in palliative care.

Palliative care is an important part of Abramson Cancer Center's holistic approach to cancer treatment. The palliative care team works closely with the patient's cancer treatment team to create an individual care plan and provide the best quality of life for each and every patient.

## WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative care is specialized medical care that provides an extra layer of support to patients with serious illnesses, such as cancer. Patients and families at any stage of cancer may benefit from palliative care including those who are newly diagnosed, are actively undergoing treatment, or have recently completed therapy.



## WHAT SERVICES DOES PALLIATIVE CARE PROVIDE?

In collaboration with your existing medical team, the outpatient palliative care team can provide:

- Pain and symptom management
- Emotional and social support
- Assistance with understanding complicated medical choices and decisions
- Coordination of care with other providers such as pharmacy, physical therapy, home care, and our dedicated palliative radiation program
- Expert consultation for symptom management and support during any inpatient hospitalizations

## WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative care can be beneficial for patients and families with symptoms or stressors that affect their quality of life. It is a common mistake to think that palliative care is only for patients who are ending curative treatment; palliative care is helpful for patients at any stage of cancer treatment, including newly diagnosed patients. The role of palliative care is to help patients and their families achieve their individual goals while maintaining the best possible quality of life.

## HOW ELSE CAN PALLIATIVE CARE PROVIDE ASSISTANCE?

When confronted with a cancer diagnosis, patients make choices for treatment and care based on diagnosis and prognosis, the potential benefits and risks associated with various therapies, and personal priorities. Everyone has different personal hopes and goals for their lives. Review of these goals and priorities throughout the course of cancer care will ensure that the patient, family and health care team are striving for the same outcomes and protecting quality of life. The palliative care team can assist with an approach to eliciting a patient's goals and priorities.