Referral Information for Wirral Community Specialist Palliative Care / Wirral Hospice St Johns (WHSJ) Referral Form.

Services are for all those aged 18 and over registered with a Wirral GP.

Referrals will be processed Mon - Fri 9.00am - 4.30pm.

Community Services

Clinical Nurse Specialist (advisory role)
Provide the highest standards of up-to-date specialist palliative care to adults with **complex** palliative care needs associated with advanced progressive disease. The aim being to relieve distress and optimize quality of life for the patient and those closest to them. (***All patients in the last 12 months of life with a palliative diagnosis should be referred to community nurses for palliative care and support***.)

Occupational Therapist (OT) / Physiotherapist (Physio)
Criteria for OT/physio; functional rehabilitation, anxiety and coping strategies, fatigue management, cognitive assessment, **complex** moving and handling assessment, provision of equipment for activities of daily living, exercise programs, management of chronic chest conditions(NOT urgent chest clearance), pain and symptom management-TENs and positioning to improve the quality of life for patients with a **complex** palliative care prognosis - maximize dignity advise, support, education with regards to appropriate treatment intervention and equipment.

Dietitian
Our Dietitian supports adults with complex palliative care needs and their families who are experiencing difficulties with symptom management, psychological, social, and spiritual needs resulting in a significant impact on nutritional status. Aims of care look to maximize appetite through an individualized holistic approach to alleviate symptoms, consider practical measures and improve quality of life.

End of Life Team
Provide education, support and leadership on all aspects of end-of-life care. The team support all Wirral Care homes with their End of Life care with the aim of ensuring high quality care and reduce unnecessary hospital admissions at end of life.

For more information, please see https://www.wchc.nhs.uk/services/specialist-palliative-care/

Hospice Services

Wellbeing Services
Provides a programme of supportive sessions and regular contact intended to enable the patients with life-limiting conditions and their families to cope with emotional, social and physical impact of living with incurable disease., Benefits from early referral and provides a gateway to full hospice MDT.

MND Keyworker
Access to keyworker support from diagnosis, with direct access to counselling support and ongoing bereavement support.

In-patient Unit
Patients with life-limiting conditions can be referred for admission to inpatient beds– providing access to full hospice MDT for holistic assessment to support with **complex** and distressing physical symptoms, emotional and social challenges psychological and spiritual distress related to condition. Patients are referred for short stay (usually 1-2 weeks) to optimise symptom control and reduce distress before being discharged safely to most appropriate location with ongoing palliative care plan where required. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept referrals for respite.

Outpatient Clinic
Patients with any life-limiting illness can be referred to the outpatient clinic for medical and holistic review by palliative care physicians, clinical nurse specialists, or specialist pain service, with onward referral to hospice services as required

Hospice MDT comprises - Consultants / Medical team, Nurses, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Counselling, Spiritual Care, Complimentary Therapies and Bereavement Support Patient and Families accessing any hospice services can access Counselling and Bereavement Support

Further details on the hospice website
https://www.wirralhospice.org/patientsandprofessionals/

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