



We help children and families
be their healthiest

Palliative Care at CHEO:

It's all about living

The CHEO Palliative Care Program enhances the quality of life of children, youth and their families living with progressive, life limiting illnesses.



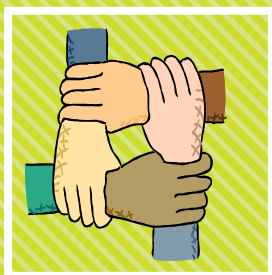
What is palliative care for children and youth?

Palliative care for children, youth and their families is a comprehensive and active approach to medical care that:

- Focuses on comfort and quality of life for the patient and support for the family;
- Is developmentally appropriate and tailored to the needs of each child and family
- Looks at the whole child, providing physical, emotional, social and spiritual support;
- Respects culture and beliefs;
- Is helpful when curative treatment is no longer feasible, but can also proceed alongside active treatment;
- May continue for many years;
- Can start from the time of diagnosis and even before a baby is born.

Palliative Care Team

Our team is made up of many health professionals working together:



Nurse Manager
Medical Director
Physicians
Nurse Practitioner
Registered Nurses on-call
Coordinator of Volunteer Services
Social Worker
Recreational Therapist

How can the Palliative Care team help my child or teen and our family?

The Palliative Care Team can help by:

- Being available to you and your primary care team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;
- Managing pain and other distressing symptoms;
- Offering home and in hospital visits;
- Collaborating with your medical team to coordinate services and supports;
- Offering ethical counseling to help you work through choices and decisions;
- Giving emotional and bereavement support;
- Helping you to make memories and create a legacy for your child or teen;
- Supporting other professionals caring for your family and child or teen;
- Linking eligible families with Roger Neilson House services and supports;
- Coordinating admission to Roger Neilson House.



Who qualifies for palliative care services?

Palliative care services are available to:

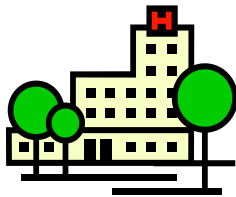
- Children and youth under 18 who have a life limiting illness with a progressive decline;
- Patients and families willing to confront the challenging issues around the illness, with the help of our team;
- Families whose primary care team supports a referral to palliative care.



Early referrals help families develop therapeutic relationships with the palliative care team.

Where can we receive palliative care and supports?

The Palliative Care Team offers services and support in several settings.



At CHEO or your community hospital



In your home



At Roger Neilson House

What is Roger Neilson House?

Roger Neilson House is an 8 bed residential hospice for children, youth and their families, located on the CHEO campus.

Roger Neilson House offers:

- Respite care;
- Family support;
- Symptom assessment;
- Transition to home from hospital, after surgery or illness;
- Perinatal hospice;
- Visiting Home Hospice;
- End of life care;
- Grief and bereavement support for parents, siblings and grandparents.

How can I get palliative care support for my child?

If you think your child, teen, family or primary care team could benefit from our services and support, ask your community physician, pediatrician or CHEO doctor to send a referral to the Palliative Care Team.

Numbers to know

For general inquiries about the CHEO Palliative Care Team, services and referrals:

Call: 613-523-6300 Ext. 4600
Fax: 613-523-3617
Monday to Friday
8:30-4:30

For urgent needs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, call the Palliative Care Nurse or Doctor on-call.

To reach the nurse or doctor on-call:

1. Dial 613-737-7600
2. Press "0" for the operator
3. Ask the operator to page the palliative care nurse or doctor on-call. Please stay on the line. It can sometimes take 5-10 minutes for the nurse or doctor on-call to reach the operator.

