

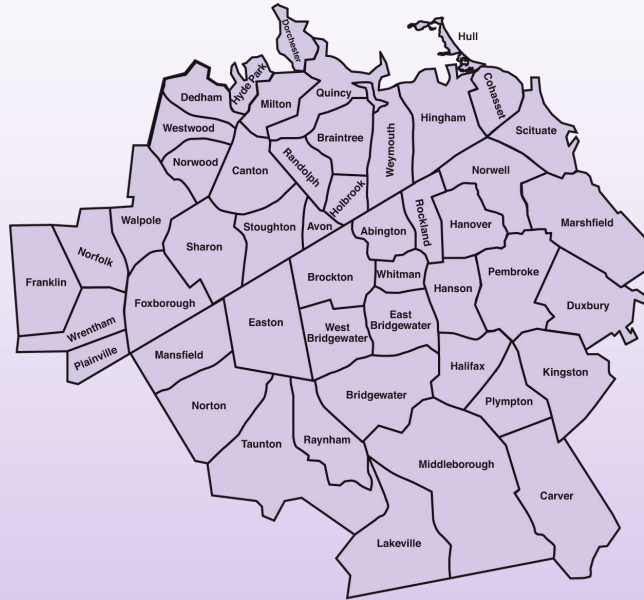
## Referral Process

- ♥ Your physician will write an order for a Palliative Care Consult including the reason for the consult.
- ♥ Once the order is written, our Nurse Practitioner will be notified and will call to schedule an appointment.
- ♥ Our Nurse Practitioner will meet with the patient and family wherever they are in the community.
- ♥ Our Nurse Practitioner will confer with the referring clinician and make recommendations regarding your care.
- ♥ Our Nurse Practitioner will make follow-up visits to ensure your pain and/or symptoms are managed.



## Palliative Care Consults Can Take Place In Several Places:

- ♥ In your home
- ♥ At area Nursing Facilities
- ♥ At Inpatient Contracted Hospitals



Don't wait to get the help you deserve. Ask for palliative care and start feeling better now.

For more information  
please contact:



**Palliative Care  
Consultation Service**

A DIVISION OF OLD COLONY HOSPICE

Phone: 781-341-4145

Fax: 781-297-7345

[www.oldcolonyhospice.org](http://www.oldcolonyhospice.org)



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When you want the best  
for your loved one.....

be sure to ask for  
us by name!

Phone: (781) 341-4145

# What is Palliative Care?

- ♥ Palliative Care is designed to provide emotional, spiritual and physical symptom management for patients and their families facing progressive or complex illnesses. The goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life through management of troubling symptoms.
- ♥ Palliative Care is provided at any stage of an illness and **can be provided simultaneously with curative treatment or skilled care.**
- ♥ In many cases, transitioning from one setting to another contributes to poor outcomes resulting in multiple re-hospitalizations. Palliative care can support patients by addressing these issues and help to identify patient care goals.



# Who Can Benefit from Palliative Care?

Patients who:

- ♥ Have chronic, progressive or complex medical condition(s)
- ♥ Have pain or troubling symptoms that are not well controlled
- ♥ Have difficulty managing the complexity of their medical problems
- ♥ Need assistance with communication issues related to care and treatment
- ♥ Have been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness and need support with decision-making and treatment goals
- ♥ Have experienced multiple visits to the emergency room or re-admissions to the hospital in the past six months for the same issues
- ♥ Would like to discuss alternatives to continuing treatment
- ♥ Need to make difficult decisions about how to proceed with care and treatment
- ♥ Would like to discuss Advance Care Planning options such as Health Care Proxy, Living Will, etc.

# Palliative Care Can Improve your Quality of Life

- ♥ Together with your primary health care provider, your palliative care team combines vigorous pain and symptom control into every part of your treatment. Team members spend as much time with you and your family as it takes to help you fully understand your condition, care options and other needs.
- ♥ Management of troubling symptoms such as pain, nausea or difficulty breathing
- ♥ Ease the concerns and distress you may be feeling
- ♥ Palliative care will assist case managers, nurses and physicians in coordinating your care
- ♥ Palliative care can assist you and your family to make important decisions about end of life issues such as: life support, artificial nutrition and do not resuscitate orders
- ♥ Assist with advance planning such as completing Health Care Proxy forms