

General Practice Palliative Care Programme

Introduction

Awareness of the need for excellent end of life care is growing and people are entitled to be able to choose their place of care and location of death. The demographic ‘time-bomb’ of the aging population and improvements in cancer treatment means that more people will be living with a terminal illness. There are also increasing numbers of people with non-malignant disease requiring end of life care who do not have the same level of access to palliative care services. Increasing pressure on hospital level care means that there is a flow-on pressure for GPs working in Primary Care.

Auckland PHO General Practice Palliative Care (a new contract with ADHB) builds on the previous End of Life Care funded programme that funds GPs to provide Palliative Care.

It is expected that a patient who is at the end of their terminal illness would have been enrolled into CarePlus.

Eligibility

- Patient has a diagnosis of malignant or non-malignant disease
- Patient is deemed by their GP or secondary services to be expected to die within twelve months
- Patient is enrolled with the Practice

In-Eligibility

- Patients living in a residential care facility or private hospital where there is a funding arrangement for the GP to provide palliative care.

Patient Co-Payments

It is expected that patients enrolled into the Palliative Care Programme do not pay for the initial and home visits. Co-payments for follow up visits is at the discretion of the Practice

Funded Packages of Care

The package of care includes services relating to the patient’s terminal illness

Service Type	Service Description	Funding
Initial (extended consultation) (<i>when patient is no longer being actively treated for their condition</i>)	To discuss and plan care including advance care plan as appropriate	\$75.00
Follow-up visits/consultations	Subsidy for ongoing palliative care support	\$35.00
Home visits <i>One funded visit per day</i>	When patient too ill to be seen at the Practice Record if patient visited in or out of hours*	\$120.00
Bereavement follow-up	Record date of death * Can include phone call or follow-up family visit but does not include a home visit to certify death	\$20.00

Claiming

MedTech32 – complete Palliative Care Visits advanced form

Profile for Mac and MyPractice – complete the General Practice Palliative Care Programme form and fax to Auckland PHO.

All prices are exclusive of GST. *required for contract reporting