11 Be brave enough to start conversations that matter."

LISA S. RAPTIS, MD
 Palliative Care Specialist

Nationally recognized, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is the area's leading provider of comprehensive healthcare with centers of excellence in cancer, heart and vascular, kidney stones, and women's and children's services. We also have an award-winning emergency department and neighborhood health centers for quality care close to home. Through our expert physicians and advanced technology, we offer the perfect blend of state-of-the-art medical treatment and personalized care.

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Expert care with a personal touch





WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE

Palliative care (pronounced pal-lee-uh-tiv) is specialized medical care for people with serious or chronic illness. It focuses on providing relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of the illness. Our priority is to make you comfortable and improve quality of life for you and your family.

Palliative care is provided by a specially-trained team of doctors, nurses, social workers, chaplains, and other specialists who work together with your doctor to provide an extra layer of care and support. Palliative care is appropriate at any age and at any stage of chronic or serious illness and can be provided along with curative treatment.

Hospice, care at the end of life, always includes palliative care, however you may receive palliative care services at any stage of an illness.



THE PALLIATIVE CARE TEAM WILL WORK TO:

- Treat your pain and other symptoms.
- Educate you and your family in an effort to promote understanding of the disease process and the expected future course of your illness.
- Establish an environment that promotes your cultural, spiritual and religious needs.
- **Engage** you and your family to participate in the medical decision making process.
- **Develop** a plan of care that promotes your quality of life and maintains the dignity you deserve.

WHO IS MY PALLIATIVE CARE TEAM?

- Physician will manage the pain and symptoms
 associated with your disease. He or she will also
 discuss your disease progression and can assist you
 with advance care planning, review treatment options
 and help you develop goals of care.
- Social Worker provides emotional support to you and your family as you cope with a new life limiting diagnosis or progression of an advanced disease.
- Nurse provides valuable resources and education, keeping you well informed and prepared to make important decisions about your care.
- Chaplain is available to both you and your family for religious or spiritual support and prayer.

The Palliative Care Team works in partnership with your own doctor to provide an extra layer of support for you and your family.

HOW TO CONTACT THE PALLIATIVE CARE TEAM

For **nonemergent** questions or concerns contact the Palliative Care team at **909.630.7029**.

For **afterhours or emergencies** ask your Nurse to contact the Palliative Care physician.



