



Education

Our vital education program offers continuing education to staff, other health professionals and to the community at large. Through our affiliation with Flinders University we teach undergraduate and post graduate medical, nursing and allied health students.

Information

Finding relevant and quality information when you are seriously ill can be difficult. The CareSearch website has been designed to provide information about the many issues that may arise when dealing with a life limiting illness. The website has pages for patients, family members and friends as well as for doctors, nurses and others who provide care. CareSearch is a free online resource funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and is available at www.caresearch.com.au

Daw House Hospice Foundation

This charitable organisation actively assists the work of SAPS by providing valuable funds for complementary therapies, patient equipment, bereavement care, volunteer expenses, education and research.



SAPS WORKS CLOSELY WITH

Royal District Nursing Service (RDNS)

RDNS provides patients with comprehensive, hands on nursing care at home. This includes medication and symptom management, assistance with patient hygiene and other services as needed.

RDNS have specialist nurses in palliative care and they work with SAPS to provide assistance to patients and carers.

Other private nursing services may also be involved in providing care.

Metropolitan Domiciliary Care

Domiciliary Care can provide patients with personal care equipment and may also be able to provide valuable assistance to carers at home.

Local councils

Local councils may be able to assist with domestic help or transport.

Carer Respite Centre

Short term/emergency respite for carers may be negotiated on an individual basis.

*We respect your individual needs
and aim to help you be as able
and as comfortable as possible
wherever you choose to be.*

Southern Adelaide Palliative Services

Repatriation General Hospital

Incorporating Daw House



Government of South Australia



Southern Adelaide Palliative Services

incorporating Daw House
c/o Repatriation General Hospital
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Government of South Australia



What is it?

WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative Care is active care that aims to relieve suffering and promote comfort when cure is no longer possible.

Palliative Care offers a positive approach to caring and encourages people to live as full a life as they can when faced with a life limiting illness. This care provides physical, psychological, social, emotional and spiritual support for patients, families and their friends.



Support

SOUTHERN ADELAIDE PALLIATIVE SERVICES (SAPS)

SAPS is a consultative service providing care for people with a life limiting illness in southern metropolitan Adelaide.

Palliative Care consists of:

- Assessment of your needs and those of your family or carer(s)
- Support and advice to your local doctor
- Support and advice to community home support services
- Support and advice to treating specialists in hospital

The SAPS team includes specialist nurses, doctors, social workers and specially trained volunteers.

Referral to our service

Referrals to our service can be made by your treating doctor, hospital staff, community services, or you or a family member can make the referral by telephone.

After a referral is made your needs will be assessed to see whether you will benefit from SAPS input. An outreach nurse will then contact you and begin to work with you and your family, your general practitioner and other specialists to tailor a suitable plan of care for you.

We recognise that your care may happen at home, in hospital or a residential care facility and that this may change over time. Our team will regularly assess SAPS involvement in your care.



Services

SERVICES OFFERED BY SAPS

Outpatient Clinics

To allow easy access to our service, clinics are located at

- Repatriation General Hospital (RGH)
- Flinders Medical Centre (FMC)
- Noarlunga Health Services (NHS)

A palliative doctor and nurse will assess your care needs each visit.

Community support

Our specialist outreach nurses and social workers support the care provided by GPs and community nurses to patients in their homes and in residential care facilities in our region. They do not replace existing providers of care but assess need, provide skilled advice, assist in coordinating community services and are able to request additional services as required.

SAPS medical specialists are able to offer advice to treating doctors by telephone. A visit for review of complex symptoms can be arranged on request from the GP, other medical specialist or outreach nurse.

Hospital Consultation

Our specialist nurses and doctors regularly consult at FMC, RGH and NHS. Medical review in private hospitals in the region can be negotiated. We offer an after-hours telephone advisory service to your GP and treating doctor, and community nurses.

Caring

Inpatient care in Daw House

Daw House is a specialised 15 bed short-stay inpatient unit located on the RGH campus. The unit accepts admissions for active symptom management, as a transition to home from hospital, or for care in the terminal stage of illness. There is limited access for respite care. Daw House is available to community and veterans alike and to both insured and uninsured patients. Accommodation is provided in either single or twin rooms.

OTHER SERVICES

Complementary Therapies

A variety of complementary therapies including relaxation, massage, and art is available to you and your carer at our centre near Daw House.

Bereavement Services

Support is available to family members who will have access to individual or group counselling, a Service of Remembrance and written information about coping with loss and grief.

Volunteer Support

Specially trained volunteers play a valued and integral role in providing support in the home, in Daw House, complementary care and in bereavement support.

Research Activities

We have an active research program which plays a vital role in developing better ways to deliver our service. We may ask you to consider being involved in one of our current projects.