

Palliative Care Clinic

Scope of Service (Sample Document)

The *XYZ Palliative Care Clinic* is able to provide services within the following parameters:

A. Diagnoses

- Any serious or life-threatening disease(s); for example:
 - ✓ Cancer—any stage
 - ✓ Chronic pulmonary, cardiac, renal or liver disease
 - ✓ Progressive neurological illness (e.g., ALS, dementia)
 - ✓ Progressive HIV/AIDS
 - ✓ Chronic vascular insufficiency

Note: The following conditions fall outside the clinic's scope of care:

- Chronic nonmalignant pain with no serious/life-limiting illness (e.g., low-back pain)
- Chronic stable-phase HIV disease
- Substance-abuse disorder
- Routine advance care planning referrals
- Cancer survivorship issues

B. Services

- Complex pain and symptom management, including medication management related to palliative care issues
- Complex medical decisions (e.g., appropriate use of artificial nutrition in ALS)
- Counseling/support for patients and families
- Care planning decisions (e.g., timing of hospice referral)
- Advance care planning

C. Age

- 18 or older

D. Clinician Role

Clinic physicians are able to assume the following roles in the care of patients:

- A consultation-only role, where the referring clinician is typically asking solely for an opinion around a focused problem (e.g., drug choice/dose for pain management)
- A co-management role with the referring clinician for care of a specific issue (e.g., symptom management)

Note:

- a) Clinic physicians are not able to assume the role of primary care provider or hospice physician of record.
- b) Clinic physicians and other staff are not able to make home visits or visits to other care sites outside the hospital.