The purpose of this guide is to help you find information and support on palliative care. This guide provides links and references to reliable and current information sources for patients, families, and caregivers.

Many of the materials in this guide can be found at the Patient Education Resource Center (PERC) in the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Level B2.

**What is Palliative Care?**

Palliative care offers pain and symptom management as well as emotional support. The goal of palliative care is to improve the patient and family’s quality of life. It is appropriate at any age and at any state in a serious illness, and can be provided along with curative treatment.

**University of Michigan Resources**

- **Palliative Care Services**
  
  [http://uofmhealth.org/conditions-treatments/home-care/palliative-care](http://uofmhealth.org/conditions-treatments/home-care/palliative-care)
  
  These services can be requested by patient or doctor to assist in managing quality of life issues. Helps with physical and emotional issues as well as legal, faith, and relationship matters.

- **Comprehensive Cancer Center Symptom Management & Supportive Care Program**
  
  
  The symptom management & support care program works in concert with your oncology team to develop a plan of action to address your concerns. This program combines expertise in palliative care or transition of care issues as well as in the following areas:
  
  - Medication management for symptom control
  - Anemia management
  - Oral anti-cancer therapy management
  - Skin toxicity and wound management
  - Pain services
  - Physical and occupational therapy
  - Cancer nutrition
  - Psychological counseling
  - Integrative medicine
To make an appointment, please talk to your healthcare team, or call: 877-907-0859

- **Michigan Visiting Nurses Palliative Care Services**  
The goal of the Michigan Visiting Nurses Palliative Care Services is to offer patients and their families treatment, comfort, and support. This program emphasizes pain control and symptom management.  
Phone: (734) 677-1515

**Brochures and Fact Sheets**

- American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). *Palliative Care: Improving Quality of Life for Patients and Families*. Available online at: [http://cancer.net/sites/cancer.net/files/palliative_care.pdf](http://cancer.net/sites/cancer.net/files/palliative_care.pdf)
- Get Palliative Care.org (provided by the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC)). *Palliative Care – What You Should Know*. Available online at: [http://goo.gl/xxNdv8](http://goo.gl/xxNdv8)
- National Cancer Institute. *Palliative Care in Cancer*. Available online at: [http://goo.gl/UTQh5y](http://goo.gl/UTQh5y)

**Articles**


**Books**

- American Cancer Society. *When the Focus is on Care: Palliative Care and Cancer*. Atlanta: American Cancer Society, 2005.
Audiovisual Resources

- Cancer.Net (Provided by the American Society of Clinical Oncology)
  - Cancer.Net Podcast: Caring for the Symptoms of Cancer and its Treatment
  - Cancer.Net Video: What is Palliative Care
    The podcast and video are both available at: [http://goo.gl/333N5P](http://goo.gl/333N5P)

- Get Palliative Care.org, provided by the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC)
  - Early Palliative Care: Improving Quality of Life
  - Palliative Care: We are the Quarterbacks of Our Care
  - Palliative Care: YOU are a BRIDGE
  - What Palliative Care is and Why It Matters
  - Who Should Receive Palliative Care
    The above titles are available at: [https://getpalliativecare.org/videos-podcasts-livechats/](https://getpalliativecare.org/videos-podcasts-livechats/)
    
    There are other informational videos as well as a “Quality Life” series which focuses on real patients and their experiences with palliative care.

Web Resources

- American Cancer Society: A Guide to Palliative or Supportive Care
  Explains palliative care and its benefits

- CaringInfo
  [http://caringinfo.org](http://caringinfo.org)
  This site, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, provides a variety of free resources on topics such as advance care planning, caregiving, pain, financial issues, hospice and palliative care, and grief and loss.

- Get Palliative Care.org
  [https://getpalliativecare.org](https://getpalliativecare.org)
  This site, provided by the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), provides information on palliative care, and includes a palliative care provider directory of hospitals. Also includes a quiz to see if palliative care may be appropriate for you or a loved one.
- **PalliativeDoctors.org**  
  [http://palliativedoctors.org](http://palliativedoctors.org)  
  This is the patient site of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) and it provides information for patients and families on palliative care.

- **Patient Quality of Life Coalition**  
  [http://patientqualityoflife.org](http://patientqualityoflife.org)  
  This coalition was formed to advance the interests of patients and families facing serious illness. This site includes policy and advocacy information as well as resources on palliative care, including research and reports.