## **Outpatient Clinic**

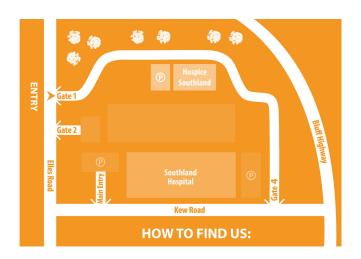
#### **Hospice Southland Outpatient Clinic provides:**

- Appointments with the Medical Director
- Pain Assessment and Treatment
- Symptom Control
- Review of Medical Situation
- Advice on Treatment Planning
- Ultrasound Diagnostics
- Nutritional Advice
- Consultation with General Practitioners,
   Oncologists and other Specialists
- Admission to Hospice Inpatient Unit if necessary

Our team of health professionals specialises in providing quality care to patients who are living with an incurable illness.

Care is provided by the multi-disciplinary team who maintains close links with other health professionals and caregivers involved in the patients care.

Care focuses on quality of life, responding to each patients physical, emotional and spiritual needs. Family life is deeply affected when a loved one has an incurable illness, and support for families is an intrinsic part of hospice care.



#### How to contact us:

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# Palliative Medicine Outpatient Clinic











## What is Palliative Medicine?

- Palliative Medicine is a specialist treatment provided to improve the quality of life of patients with serious and incurable illnesses.
   It addresses the management of pain and other symptoms for example nausea, lack of appetite, shortness of breath.
- Palliative Medicine is not for acute end-of-life situations only. If you are receiving Oncology or Specialist treatment you can receive Palliative treatment as well.
- Hospice Southland provides an Outpatient Clinic as well as a Community Service for home support and an Inpatient Unit for the treatment of difficult symptoms.
- Palliative treatment and care is free of charge.
- The patient and the referring Doctor decide whether and when to involve hospice for palliative treatment.
- Oncology may hand over the treatment entirely to Hospice in agreement with the patient and family.
- If you require further information please do not hesitate to ask our Community Palliative
   Care Nurses or Doctor by phone.

## Who Can Make a Referral?

Hospice referrals can be made by:

- General Practitioners
- Oncology Doctors and nurses
- Other specialists
- Patients and family members
- District nurses
- Hospital wards and outpatient clinics
- Social Workers
- Other health professionals

Hospice Southland requires a written referral.

Hospice will then contact the current treating

Doctor to obtain the most up-to-date information
about your situation.

After your appointment we write a letter to your current Doctor(s) to keep them informed about your treatment and our recommendations.

## **Other Hospice Services**

### **Community Palliative Care Team**

- The Medical and Nursing team provide home visits and information on the services available to patients and their families. The aim is to support people to stay in their own home as much as possible if it is their wish.
- This team maintains a constant and close working relationship with other health professionals involved in the patients care.
- After hours telephone support and advice is provided by the Registered Nurse on duty in the Inpatient Unit.

#### Day Hospice

- Is an activity based program held at Hospice.
- Day Hospice provides a safe and relaxed environment which offers companionship and support for patients, and time out for families.

## **Inpatient Unit**

The Inpatient Unit is a six-bed short stay
facility for the treatment of severe symptoms
that can't be well controlled at home. Patients
can also be admitted for respite reasons and
for end of life situations. It is a home-like
environment and family are welcome.

## **Spiritual Support**

 Spiritual Support is an integral aspect of the care we offer. The Spiritual Support person visits and spends time with the patient and family whilst they are in the Inpatient Unit.