

Programme Objectives:

1. To relieve any potential financial barriers for patients and their whanau in the terminal stage of their illnesses.
2. To reimburse general practitioners for home visits and surgery consultations for palliative care patients.

Programme Processes:

1. When a patient has reached the terminal phase of their illness, offer them this programme and gain their approval for transfer of their data for reporting, payment and evaluation services.
2. A patient information sheet is provided for you to help explain the programme to patients.
3. The programme does not require you to obtain prior approval for offering services to patients.
4. Surgery consultations or home visits may be carried out by a general practitioner or nurse.
5. 'Virtual consultations' between a GP and palliative care/oncology nurse may also be claimed at the surgery consultation rate. 'Virtual consultations' are those where the palliative care nurse has provided a home visit to the patient and then needs to discuss management with the GP. A consultation note and usually a prescription would be written.
6. It is important to coordinate your services with those of others caring for the patient (e.g. district nurses) and to respect their role. Writing management details in the shared care communication booklet will assist with this.
7. Payments are paid at the rate of \$97 for a home visit, \$19 for a surgery consultation or for a palliative care nurse consult (GST inclusive). It is expected that there will be no patient co-payment.
8. Services may be provided for a maximum of six months and up to \$500 per patient (GST inclusive), unless further approval is obtained*.
9. One post bereavement whanau visit, or consultation may be claimed.
10. Claims may only be made for enrolled patients. If the patient transfers practices during his/her terminal illness, then each practice may invoice for services provided while the patient is registered with that practice.
11. Please use the Web Portal Palliative Care Visit Form.
12. Claims are live through the web portal.

Palliative Care

Practice Information

Last updated: 2020



**West Coast
Health**

Community Wellbeing Services

Information required for further approval: diagnosis, time since diagnosis, purpose of visits to date and reason why further home or clinic visits are required.

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