

When a patient is dying on a ward in the hospital, this symbol will be displayed at the nurses' station. The symbol tells staff and visitors that a very personal event is happening on the ward and that it is a time for dignity and respect.



The symbol aims to add a rightful degree of respect and solemnity to items used prior to or following the death of a person and to make resources relating to the end of life instantly identifiable.

The symbol is inspired by ancient Irish history and is not associated with any one religion or denomination. The 3-stranded white outer spiral represents the interconnected cycle of life - birth, life and death. The white outer circle represents continuity, infinity and completion. Purple was chosen as the background colour as it is associated with nobility, solemnity and spirituality



Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care

Our on-site team of healthcare chaplains are available to be with you, offering time and space that is private and non-judgemental, where you can talk freely about your feelings, emotions or beliefs. If you have particular spiritual or religious needs, chaplains can attend to those, and they can also assist with funeral planning.

The Pastoral Care Ministry is available to you and your loved ones whether or not you have a particular belief or religious affiliation; it's about offering personal support in a manner that respects the unique needs and wishes of everyone.



BON SECOURS HOSPITAL DUBLIN
Advanced Medicine Exceptional Care

Palliative Care Office

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 08:00 – 17:00

t: 01 808 2332 (direct) or

t: 01 806 5300 Ext 5131

e: palliativecaredublin@bonsecours.ie

Pastoral Care Team

Monday to Friday: 07:30 – 19.30

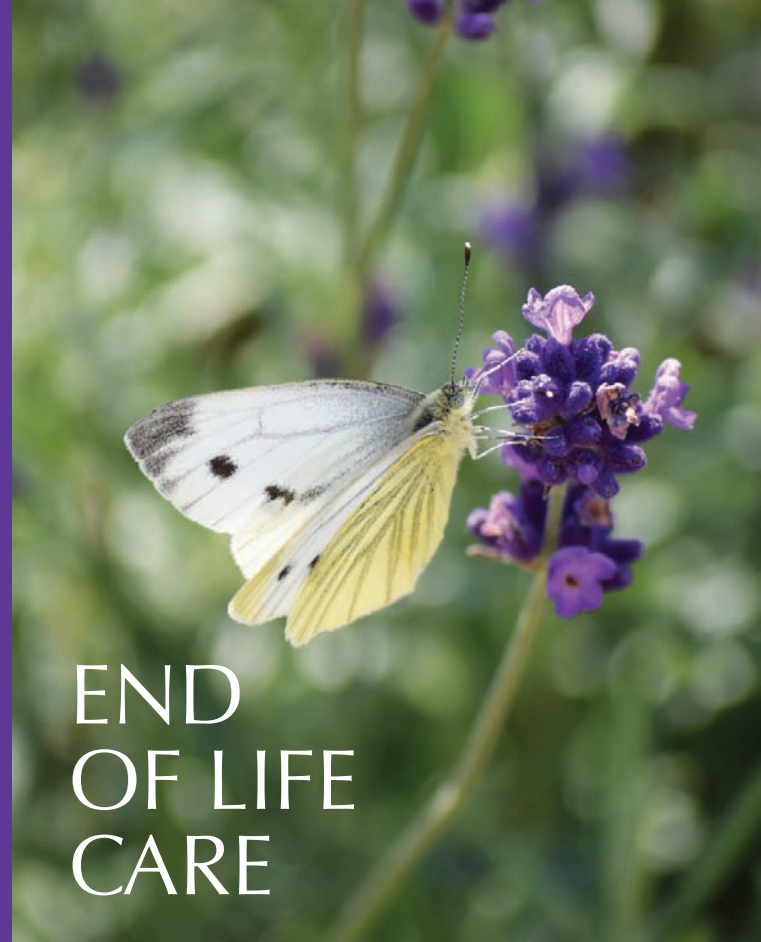
Saturday and Sunday: 10:00 – 18.30

t: 01 806 5212

e: pcare@bonsecours.ie

www.bonsecours.ie/dublin

1904098 | cloud@bonsecours.ie



INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS & CARERS

In keeping with our mission and values, we are committed to providing quality holistic care at end of life.



BON SECOURS HOSPITAL DUBLIN
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Supporting patients at the end of their lives is an important part of our services at Bon Secours Hospital Dublin. Our mission is to provide care to the sick, the dying and their families in a way that respects the dignity, uniqueness, privacy, choice and confidentiality of each person, relative and carer.

The doctors and nurses caring for your loved one believe there has been a change in your loved ones condition that indicates that they may be dying. It is important to us that you are informed of the changing situation and your concerns and worries are acknowledged.

Nothing can take away the feelings of sadness and grief, but having information may help you cope at this anxious time.

Communication

The doctors and nurses will answer your questions and keep you informed about the physical changes at end of life. If you have any questions, please ask the staff caring for your loved one.

The specialist palliative care team are available to support the doctors and nurses caring for your relative and may already be known to you.

Comfort and Dignity

At this time the focus of care changes from curative to the care of the dying patient, ensuring a comfortable and dignified death.

You may notice increased sleepiness, confusion, changes to their breathing pattern, inability to swallow drinks/ tablets.

The doctors and nurses will provide comfort measures with minimum disturbance, managing symptoms such as pain, nausea, anxiety, breathlessness, agitation and noisy respiratory secretions. The most effective route for administering medicines in the last days of life is tailored to the dying persons condition, their ability to swallow safely and their preferences. A small battery operated syringe pump is often used to give medications subcutaneously over 24 hours. This ensures continuous symptom control with minimum discomfort.

It is normal for someone who is dying not to want much food or drink and so sips of water may be enough. You can help with mouth and lip care.

It is usually not appropriate to continue some procedures e.g. checking temperature, blood pressure monitoring, blood tests. In the last days of life these may not be of benefit to the person and may cause distress.



Patients who are approaching end of life will be cared for in a single room where you may stay with your loved one and we also have a family room on the ward where your family can spend private time together. This room has a sleeper sofa to allow a family member to stay overnight.

Contact

There is often uncertainty about how long a person has left to live and the signs that suggest that someone is dying are complex and subtle. In the event of a sudden change in your relative's condition while you are not at the bedside, we will ask you to nominate a person to be first contact.

Facilities

Tea/ coffee are available in the family room and our restaurant is open daily.

Visiting

Visiting is not restricted but we do ask that only two visitors at a time by the bedside to ensure peace and quiet for the patient. Children are very welcome to visit to say their goodbyes to a loved one.

Car parking

Is available in the hospital grounds and you can avail of a permit when you are staying day/night.

Accommodation

We can provide you with a list of nearby guest houses should you wish to stay close to the hospital.