

Understanding Supportive Care

Transitions Supportive Care is specialized medical care for people with chronic, serious illnesses.

Supportive Care is focused on providing patients with relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of a serious illness - whatever the diagnosis.

The goal is to **improve quality of life** for both the patient **and** the family. Transitions Supportive Care is provided by a team of doctors, nurses, social workers, trained volunteers and other specialists who work with the patient's existing doctors.

Transitions is an extra layer of support that **provides information and guidance** for complex situations and decisions. Supportive Care is **appropriate at any age** and at any stage in a serious illness, and can be provided **together with curative treatment**.



Supports people holistically: *medically, physically, emotionally and socially*



Evaluates situation from multiple angles for *best possible treatment*.



Helps coordinate patient's care *and navigates a complex medical system*.



Palliative consultations and treatments are often covered by insurance.



Transitions
SUPPORTIVE CARE
Helping Navigate Your Healthcare Journey

When is **TRANSITIONS** **Supportive Care** appropriate?

- ▶ Two or more hospital admissions for the same diagnosis within 3 months (*CHF, COPD, ESRD, CVA, CA, dementia with reoccurring infections*), or 3+ admissions in the last 12 months.
- ▶ Persistent, troublesome symptoms despite optimal treatment of underlying conditions.
- ▶ Artificial nutrition/hydration requested by family or patient where patient has short anticipated survival from their underlying condition, or for dementia.
- ▶ Significant weight loss of 5-10% over the past 3-6 months and/or a low body mass index.
- ▶ Major function change: ambulation with walker only, wheel-chair bound.
- ▶ Patient or family concern regarding advanced disease progression/death and/or no knowledge of Advanced Directive.
- ▶ Metastatic Cancer.
- ▶ Patient is a full code with overall poor diagnosis.
- ▶ Patient or family requests Supportive Care consultation.



If you or someone you know is interested in
a Supportive Care Consult, please contact us at

(850) 446-1077

WWW.TRANSITIONS-SUPPORT.ORG