

Palliative Care Conference Questionnaire



You are invited to attend a **Palliative Care Conference** for _____ (resident name). Please turn the page to learn more.

Date and time:

Location:

This Conference will be facilitated by _____ (facilitator name).

If possible, please complete this questionnaire and return it to the facilitator before the conference. Or, please bring it with you to the palliative care conference.

Today's date is: _____ **My name is:** _____

Please select one of the following.

- I am living in this long-term care home
- I am the substitute decision maker (SDM) for a resident living in this long-term care home
- I am a family member/friend of a resident living in this long-term care home but not a SDM

1. What are the main issues/concerns for you at the moment?

2. What questions would you like answered at the care conference?

3. How worried are you about these concerns? Please circle your answer if '1' is 'not at all' and '10' is 'extremely worried'.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Not at all			Neutral				Extremely worried		

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What is palliative care?

- Support for residents with chronic health conditions, when there is a need for more coordination between the person, family, and/or care team
- Does not mean an end to treatment
- Aim is to maximize quality of life, manage symptoms, and meet complex needs

What is a Palliative Care Conference?

- A meeting held between a resident, their current or future substitute decision maker (and other family), and their healthcare team
- Provides a safe environment to discuss issues and questions about how current, future and end-of-life care could promote quality of life
- Provides a safe environment to consider a resident's goals if they become seriously ill
- Can be a time to confirm informed consent for changes in treatment
- Guided by the resident's values, beliefs, and wishes

Why is the conference happening now?

- A palliative approach to care can be offered at any stage of a chronic health condition.
- The healthcare team will let you/your family know if this palliative care conference is being held because you/your family member is in the "terminal phase" of an illness. The terminal phase of an illness may mean people are expected to die in days or weeks.

What are we going to be talking about?

- Current health (e.g., eating, mobility, recreation, pain, breathing)
- What to expect as health condition(s) progress(es)
- Goals of care concerning current or anticipated changes in health, or as applicable end-of-life care and treatment (e.g., symptom control, preferred atmosphere, presence of close ones, important spiritual or cultural practices)

Who from your family should attend?

- The resident
- The resident's current or future substitute decision-maker
- Other family or friends invited by the resident or their substitute decision-maker

Will I be involved in deciding on changes in treatment plans?

- Informed consent from the resident or substitute decision-maker is required **BEFORE** a treatment plan begins.
- Informed consent means knowing the risks, benefits, side effects, and alternatives to proposed care or treatment plans (i.e., what other options are available).
- The resident (or their substitute decision-maker) has the right to have any questions answered before deciding, and the right to make changes at any time even after consent.
- With health changes, the treatment plan may change, which will require the resident's (or their substitute decision-maker's) consent.