24/10/2018

**Medibank + HammondCare Palliative Care Program**

HammondCare is commencing a new service in partnership with Medibank to provide Palliative Care in the Home. This innovative pilot program allows HammondCare to provide palliative care supported by a multidisciplinary team of nursing, medical, allied health and carers to patients and their families with the aim of remaining at home during end of life care. This program is commencing on October 29th 2018 and the pilot will continue until June 2020.

Through this program, HammondCare’s objective is to increase the number of patients receiving palliative care in their place of choice, providing individualised care through a Clinical Navigator who will be an accompanist throughout their palliative journey. The Clinical Navigator will attend to all clinical management, including complex wound care and management of syringe drivers. In addition, patients who utilise this program will have access to trained carers who can provide respite, domestic assistance and personal care in the home.

This program aims to both improve the experience of end of life care and assist patients and their families to remain at home during end of life care.

**Key program highlights:**

* A Clinical Navigator (Registered Nurse) will be available Monday – Sunday, and will actively engage in patient care both on weekdays and weekends.
* Medical and nursing support is available to patients and their families after hours via phone support, as currently available for Community Palliative Care patients.
* Trained carers will be referred to patients throughout the palliative care journey, with tailored packages to support the individual needs of the patient and family.
* Involvement from specialist medical and a multidisciplinary allied health team is available, including access to equipment and bereavement counselling.
* There are no out of pocket costs to Medibank Members for these services, which will be provided across Northern Sydney Local Health District.

**How to refer:**

Referral to this program is through the HammondCare Community Palliative Care Services referral process. Please see the below link for the referral form which can be completed by a GP or specialist.

<https://www.hammond.com.au/how-to-refer/palliative-and-supportive-care-referral-form/file>

**For more information:**

Please call 1300 014 424 and speak to the Program Manager (Kate Needham) for more information or visit our website on <https://www.hammond.com.au/services/palliative-care>