



THE ROLE OF THE PALLIATIVE CARE CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

A Palliative Care Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) from hospice plays a pivotal role in providing comprehensive care and support to patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families. Their work extends beyond the hospice setting, into the patient's home, hospitals and community settings.

The CNS is generally the first point of contact for individuals being referred to hospice care. They are the heart of your care, supporting you to live well and coordinating your holistic needs.

Clinical

Conduct a thorough assessment to identify physical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs

Create a personalised care plan tailored to individual needs

Advise on symptom management, including the use of medication

Provide clinical leadership and guidance to the hospice team

Supportive

Emotional support and advice to patients, families and carers

They will offer education and guidance to patients, families and carers on disease progression, symptom management, and end-of-life care

Provide lifestyle modification advice

Address patient and family concerns



Work closely with wellbeing colleagues and other healthcare professionals to ensure coordinated care, including psychological support services

Make referrals to other services, including complementary therapists, support and social services, and other specialist teams

Care Coordination

Instigate advanced care planning through open and honest discussions about end-of-life care preferences

Work with families and patients to facilitate, where possible, the patient's Preferred Place of Care or Death (PPC or PPD) wishes

Other



Care Setting

Home

Nursing or
Care Home

Hospital

Hospice

In essence, a Palliative Care Clinical Nurse Specialist from hospice is a central member of the care team, providing expert care, support, and advocacy for patients and their families in the comfort of their preferred place of care



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Hospice Isle of Man is also known as Hospice Care and is a registered charity in the Isle of Man - Charity Number 317