



PATIENT SUPPORT

## Lung Cancer and Palliative Care

### What is palliative care?

Palliative care is care given to prevent or treat symptoms and side effects related to lung cancer. You can receive palliative care at any point alongside your cancer treatment.

The goal of palliative care is to improve your comfort and your quality of life no matter where you are on your treatment path. Its purpose is to help you feel better so you can enjoy more of what matters most to you.

### Why is it important?

**Palliative care is especially important in advanced lung cancer.**

Studies show that people with lung cancer who receive ongoing palliative care that begins early in the treatment process not only have improved quality of life but also live longer.

### How can it help me?

Lung cancer and its treatments can cause unwanted physical and emotional symptoms and side effects.

Chemotherapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, and radiation can cause side effects like fatigue, anxiety, nausea, and trouble eating. Lung cancer surgery and other treatments may also result in pain.

Your palliative care team is specially trained to manage all the side effects you might have throughout your lung cancer treatments.

**Email us at [support@go2.org](mailto:support@go2.org) or call our HelpLine at 1-800-298-2436.**

## How can I get started?

Ask your healthcare team if your treatment center has a palliative care team and make an appointment. If your treatment center does not have a palliative care team, ask for a palliative care referral.

## Where can I get palliative care?

Palliative care may be available in different settings, including hospitals, outpatient centers, and in your home. It is given by a team of doctors and nurses who work together with your treatment team.

## What happens next?

When you meet with your palliative care team, they will assess your pain level and other symptoms. They will explore your goals with you so that your treatment options match your goals every step of the way.

## Will insurance cover palliative care?

Yes. Most insurance plans, including Medicare, will cover palliative care as part of your lung cancer treatment.

## How is palliative care different from hospice care?

Hospice care is an option when a person has six months or less to live. It is usually provided after active treatment has ended.

Palliative care is for any person with lung cancer. It can begin at diagnosis, continue as long as it is needed, and be given in any setting. It can be a part of your care while you're in treatment and be continued as a part of hospice care as needed.



**For more information about lung cancer, current treatments or support, please contact our HelpLine at 1-800-298-2436, email [support@go2.org](mailto:support@go2.org) or visit [go2.org](http://go2.org).**