

### *What is “palliative care”?*

- “Palliative care” is care with the main goals of relieving suffering, and preserving or improving quality of life — so both Hospice Care and Palliative Care Programs are “palliative” in nature.
- Palliative Care **programs** are intended to meet the needs of people with serious illness whose prognosis does not meet hospice criteria, or they are not eligible for hospice for some reason; e.g. they are under Medicare Part A at the nursing facility.

### *Palliative Care of the Carolina Foothills:*

- Our program sees patients and their families in our office, in the patient’s or family member’s home, and in nursing, assisted living, retirement homes and hospitals.
- The team: physician Dr. Andrew Kamell; nurse practitioner Jean Carter; and social worker and program manager Meg Hoke.
- Members of the palliative care team see the patient for an initial consultation and then follow up with visits, phone calls, e-mail, and regular mail, depending on individual situations.
- When someone is a patient under our program, it means that they have been seen by team members and are under follow-up.

### *What does palliative care do?*

- Make suggestions on symptom management to the patient’s primary healthcare provider and—if appropriate—their facility of residence .
- Have discussions with patient and family regarding prognosis, goals of care, decision making, and advance care plans.
- Assist with transitions—nursing facility to home or assisted living; palliative care to hospice care if appropriate.

#### COMPARISON BETWEEN PALLIATIVE CARE AND HOSPICE

<b>Palliative Care</b>	<b>Hospice Care</b>
Patients with “advanced disease” but no specific life expectancy	Patients with a life expectancy of 6 months or less if disease follows normal course
Medical specialist consultations for comfort and quality of life	Direct care to patients and support for their families
Patients may still be receiving “curative” care	Focus on comfort measures and quality of life goals
Patients maybe seen anywhere—in our office, a hospital, nursing home, assisted living, home, or apartment	Patients may be living anywhere, including our Hospice House in Landrum
The Palliative Care Team: physician, nurse practitioner and social worker	Team: Attending physician, nurse, social worker, CNA, chaplain, volunteers
Does not provide medications, equipment, or direct services	Provides everything related to “hospice diagnosis” and access to the Hospice House
Available during regular business hours: M-F, 8:30am - 5pm	Available 24/7



828-894-7000 (H)  
828.894.7016 (P)  
www.hocf.org

