

Palliative Care Unit Logan Hospital Graduate Nursing/ Midwifery Program

Unit Overview

The Palliative Care Unit (6B) focuses on the management and care of patients who have chosen to take a comfort approach pathway vs a curative approach. It is important to note that palliative care encompasses patients at many different places in their journeys across all five phases as determined by Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration assessments. The unit is a 12 bed acute care unit that will transition to 14 beds in the near future. Our patients range from those in crisis with complex symptomatology who may require acute interventions (paracentesis, blood transfusion, high flow, medication rotations) and then may discharge to patients who are in the terminal phase and remain on the unit for end-of-life cares.

Our consumers with life limiting conditions may have pathology from a broad range of medical conditions such as cardiac, respiratory, neurological, endocrine and gastroenterology. We provide a multidisciplinary team approach to support maximizing quality of Life and is supported by specialist palliative care medical and allied health teams.

Benefits of undertaking a graduate program in *Palliative Care*

- **Professional Growth:** Work with experienced nurses who are dedicated to mentorship and professional development. Build confidence in communication skills and develop therapeutic relationships. Developing specialist skills in caring for consumers with life limiting conditions understanding burden vs benefit of treatment.
- **On Going Training:** Access to latest palliative care initiatives and ongoing education and training opportunities.
- **Supportive Environment:** Be part of a team that strives to embody compassion, collaboration, kindness, and teamwork with always aiming for continuous improvement.
- **Experience:** From consumers who are experiencing an acute deterioration due to illness to active end of life care. Gain appreciation for the art of holistic practice and grow skills in complex supportive care management.


2025 Graduate Program Overview

The palliative Care Unit Graduate Nursing Program includes:

- Four-day orientation.
- Three supernumerary shifts.
- Transition Support Packages with Introduction to Palliative Care.
- Four study days including Quality Initiative, Insight Program
- Unit based Clinical Coaches and Clinical Facilitator for at-the-elbow support.
- Graduate Clinical Facilitators, roaming.
- 12 months or 6 month with rotation to a different medical unit.

Clinical Skills:

- Critical thinking prioritisation
- Complex dressings and negative pressure wound therapy management.
- Stoma management
- Subcutaneous infusion management
- Central venous access device management
- High Flow
- Complex IV infusions
- Post paracentesis management
- High communication and relational skills
- Awareness and proficiency in the Five Phases of Palliative Care

It is a profound privilege to be part of someone's end-of-life journey alongside their family and loved ones. In these moments, we must ensure they experience the best possible death given the circumstances. 

Past *Palliative Care Unit* graduates are now working as

- Medical Nurses
- Specialist Palliative Care Inpatient Unit Nurse
- Community Palliative Care nurse
- Respiratory Nurse
- Palliative Care Clinical Nurse

Metro South Hospital Initiatives



The care and consideration we provide will be remembered by the family and loved ones for a long time. ❤️

Testimonials

"A program filled with supportive colleagues who strive to help you achieve your best. Great team members to work beside and a program which helps develop your practice to its full potential!"
Bella Palliative Care Nurse

"I really enjoyed my Grad Year at Logan Hospital. I felt very supported from the very beginning, not only by my facilitator but by the whole team. The time was taken to introduce me to the ward, with procedures and policies explained and every opportunity given for me to have my questions answered. The Grad team would regularly check in and take the time to teach me any tasks/skills which I felt I was not confident and competent in carrying out which to me was the most important part of my Grad year. It can be very daunting going from having never worked in a hospital before to suddenly having a patient load and having someone there to call on alleviated any stress which is so important as a new Grad and for that I will always be very appreciative.

The Grad Study days were also very useful, especially in teaching us new skills which enabled us to deal with the stresses nursing can often throw at us, simply knowing you are not alone and having someone to confide in really made a difference." *Lisa Palliative Care Nurse*