Irish Hospice Foundation

Nurses for Night Care

Expert home care
at end of life

What is Nurses for Night Care?

Nurses for Night Care provides dedicated nursing care and practical support for you and your family at home in the last days of life.

Irish Hospice Foundation funds this vital service for people dying with illnesses other than cancer.

It is provided via the Irish Cancer Society Night Nursing service.

How Nurses for Night Care works

A nurse stays in your home throughout the night providing nursing care, practical help and reassurance. The night nurse also supports families, carers and loved ones at what can be a very difficult time.

Care is usually delivered between **11pm and 7am.**

All night nurses are Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland registered, reference-checked, and Garda vetted.

How to access Nurses for Night Care?

To receive the service, a person must be receiving care from their community-based Specialist Palliative Care team. This team then sends a referral to Irish Hospice Foundation requesting the Nurses for Night Care service.

Caring for someone nearing end of life

The last period of a person's life can bring physical and emotional changes. Your role may also change as your loved one becomes less able to do things for themselves.

When someone you care about is approaching the end of their lives, you may feel more emotional, fearful, anxious or more tired than usual. Try to go easy on yourself.

Using this time to be with your loved one is important but so is taking care of you.

Dying

As a person nears the end of life, they will have less energy and are likely to become weaker and may spend more time asleep. When they're awake, they may be tired and sleepy. They may also be less interested in eating and drinking and may not want to speak.

A person who is dying may not always recognise others and may slip in and out of consciousness. Remember, this is normal.

You can bring great comfort just by sitting with them, holding their hand and speaking in a calm way.

For more information, please see our free resource, Practical Information: Caring for someone at the at end of life at home, available from www.hospicefoundation.ie.

Immediately after a death

You and your family and friends may just want to sit with your loved one. You may or may not want to be alone. An expected death is not an emergency but letting your GP know is important. The community Specialist Palliative Care Team can give you more guidance on what to do.

Bereavement Support Line

It's not unusual to experience grief even before death occurs. The Bereavement Support Line, set up by Irish Hospice Foundation in partnership with the HSE, is a freephone service available 10am to 1pm Monday to Friday.

It provides a confidential safe space for those who have lost a loved one, friend or colleague, to talk about their loss and grief. It is designed to provide connection, comfort and support for those who are grieving as well as information on how to access counselling or community services if appropriate.

Irish Hospice Foundation
Bereavement Support Line
1800 80 70 77



If you or your loved one is receiving our Nurses for Night Care service, our thoughts are with you at this time.

Irish Hospice Foundation
Nurses for Night Care

Nurses for Night Care supports people with illnesses other than cancer who wish to die at home.

It's a national service provided free of charge and is funded largely by donations from the public.

Since 2006, Irish Hospice Foundation has been partnering with the Irish Cancer Society to provide Nurses for Night Care nationwide.

The provision of this service involves the processing of personal data by both Irish Hospice Foundation and the Irish Cancer Society, which will only be done in accordance with data protection law. For more information, please visit www.hospicefoundation.ie

Irish Hospice Foundation
Morrison Chambers
32 Nassau Street
Dublin 2 D02 YE06

(01) 6793 188
www.hospicefoundation.ie
Registered Charity 20013554

pobal
government supporting communities

Nurses for Night Care is part of our Healthcare Hub and receives funding from the HSE.

HSE