

SUPPORT LIFE CHAMPIONS

THE
KIRKWOOD
SUPPORT
LIFE.

Glossary of Terms

Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)	Usual activities an individual engages in throughout the day such as eating, bathing, dressing, getting in and out of bed, and using the toilet and telephone.
Acute Illness	An illness with an abrupt onset from which the patient is expected to recover quickly and completely.
Admiral Nurse	A Community based Admiral Nurse who provides specialist advice, guidance, training and support to people, their families and carers (and organisations who support them) living with advanced dementia in Kirklees.
Advance Care Planning	The process by which an individual makes decisions and arrangements relating to their future healthcare. Such planning is carried out in two ways by appointing a substitute decision maker or by completing an advance care plan.
Bereavement	The process of grieving and mourning in particular, the loss of a loved one characterized by sadness and a deep sense of loss.
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	The restarting of a patient's heart or breathing by manual or mechanical means, or using drugs.
Carer	An individual (usually not a medical professional) who provides physical and emotional assistance to a family member or friend.
Chronic illness	An ongoing condition or illness that doesn't respond completely to treatment.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	An ongoing condition characterized by poor, long-term airflow in the lungs that results in shortness of breath and productive cough.
Community Palliative Care Nurses	Community Palliative Care Nurses are specially trained in palliative care and who are able to visit patients in their own homes. The Community Palliative Care Nurses can provide support in many ways including specialist advice on controlling pain and symptoms, assessing patient needs, providing information about a diagnosis and treatment and providing emotional support for the patient and their family and carers.
Complementary Therapy	The Complementary Therapy Team offer non-medical treatments which can complement your care. There are many different complementary therapies but the most common include massage, reflexology and reiki. Complementary therapies are not intended as an alternative to your medical treatment but as an additional means of support.
Dementia	A decline in mental functioning that's more significant than would be expected due to aging.
Diagnosis	The determination of the nature and cause of symptoms made by a medical professional, usually a physician.
DNR/CPR	A DNR (do not resuscitate) document is a doctor's written order instructing the healthcare team not to attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) when the patient's heart or breathing stops. The DNR order must be requested by the patient or family member, and it must be signed by a doctor to be valid.
End of Life Care	Care provided to an individual during what is assumed to be the last six months of their life that focuses on comfort and support for both the patient and their family.
End Stage Disease	A term referring to the last phase in the course of a disease. It has, in large part, replaced the word 'terminal' due to the negative connotations of that word.
Hospice	A philosophy and type of care focused on providing comfort, dignity, and support to people with terminal illnesses or nearing the end of life.
Impending death	When death is expected in two or three days.
In Patient Unit (IPU)	The Kirkwood 16-bed In-Patient Unit is based at Dalton and provides care for patients who are finding it difficult to get their symptoms under control and for people entering their last days of life. Our multi-disciplinary team work hard to provide the best possible care, 24 hours a day.
Life Limiting Condition or Disease	A condition or illness that is progressive and which cannot be reversed by treatment.
Life Sustaining Treatment/Life Support	Procedures or devices that replace or support vital body functions. Examples include cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), breathing tubes, nutrition or hydration provided through tubes or intravenous (IV) lines, and kidney dialysis.

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)	A group of healthcare professionals who work together to make decisions regarding the treatment of individuals patients and service users. The MDT team brings together different skills and expertise to meet the health care requirements of patients. Typically, could include a medical director, nurse, social worker, spiritual care, physiotherapist, complementary therapist.
Power of Attorney	A type of advance care directive document in which an individual designates a person to make decisions about their medical care if they become unable to communicate. A medical power of attorney directive is sometimes referred to as a durable power of attorney for healthcare. The person named in the directive is referred to as the healthcare proxy or agent, surrogate, or attorney-in-fact.
Metastatic	Refers to cancer that spreads from its organ or tissue of origin to other parts of the body. The cancerous cells are the same as those in the tissue of origin, so, for example, breast cancer cells may spread to bones, but this is different than cancer that originates in the bones.
Occupational Therapy	Instruction by a trained therapist in managing the activities of daily living feeding oneself, dressing, toileting, etc. following injury, surgery, or illness.
Palliative Care	Treatment designed to lessen or relieve pain and other symptoms that has comfort rather than cure as its goal.
Power of Attorney	A legal document designating one person to act in a legal manner on another's behalf.
Prognosis	An estimate, given by a doctor, based on the experience of many patients with the same disease or disorder who are of similar overall health and age, of how the disease will progress. A prognosis may or may not include life expectancy, depending on the severity of the disease and the likeliness of cure.
Pulmonary	Relating to the lungs and their function.
Referral	The initial meeting between a patient, their caregiver, and family members with hospice staff to discuss services.
Remission	Refers to the stage of a chronic disease, such as cancer, marked by a lessening of the intensity or progression of symptoms (such as the presence of tumors), or cessation of the disease process (tumors diminish in size or disappear). Partial remission refers to a decrease in symptoms; in complete remission, there's no evidence of disease.
Speech Language Therapist	A professional whose specialty focuses on the evaluation and treatment of communication disorders, voice disorders, and swallowing disorders, which often occur following stroke or are the result of neurological or other diseases.
Spiritual Care	Spiritual Care is focused on a holistic approach to helping people (patients, relatives or carers) to feel safe and cared for and to feel as good about themselves as possible. Spiritual care is available to listen to people in a relaxed and non judgmental way and is open to everyone.