



Social Work Support for Patients on the Inpatient Unit

Social Work Support

This information will help you and the people close to you decide if a social worker can be of assistance during your stay at the Hospice. It will explain the main aspects of the social worker's remit. We live in a diverse society and everyone's background, culture, beliefs, and experiences will be unique and you may want to tell us who is important to you and how we can meet your needs. The social worker is part of the Patient and Family Support Team and supports patients on the Inpatient Unit, their family, friends, and carers.

What does a social worker do?

The social worker will help you and the people supporting you to stay as independent as possible and will work with you and those closest to you to:

- Support you to stay in control of what happens to you allowing you to make your own decisions and help you and those close to you plan in case you can no longer make decisions for yourself
- Explain social care and health services funding and support, discuss what you need to continue living at home or help with supported accommodation or a care home, if that is right for you
- Find out what is important to you by considering your strengths and resources available as well as challenges and support, this is known as an assessment
- Decide on the best way to help you achieve what you want. This is called 'care planning' and could involve looking at how to meet your immediate needs, preparing for the end of

your life and helping you think through what you still want to do before that time comes

- Apply for funding for support and advocate for the best outcomes
- Offer practical help by supporting access to services such as housing, financial and legal support or with the general practicalities of life
- Help with difficult conversations with your family and others, so you feel anything you want to say is said. You may prefer to write a letter or find other ways to say or pass on what you want to say
- Identify how we keep you safe if you are at risk, maybe you are not cared for properly or you feel uncomfortable with the way someone is caring for you. We can support you in making choices about what you want to happen

To comply with the social worker's duty of care and legislation, the social worker will sometimes have to pass on information and any concerns about risks they might encounter. However, they will always keep you informed when that is necessary. Please also feel free to ask if there is anything you want to discuss. If you would like to see our social worker, please ask any member of staff to arrange this for you.

Contact Us

For further information contact the Patient and Family Support Team **01223 675770**
patientandfamilysupportteam@arhc.org.uk

All information is correct at time of print and may be subject to change. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information. If you have any feedback or would like this information in a different format or language, please contact us.