Quality care, for a better quality of life

National Palliative Care Week (May 22 -28) this year is focusing on ‘Living well with chronic illness’.

One in five Australians is affected by chronic disease, which may be terminal in advanced stages. Many such patients benefit from palliative care services.

The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Services Palliative Care Nurse Suzanne Robson says there is a need for people with advanced chronic illness to be able to access palliative care.

“There’s a common misconception that only cancer patients can access palliative care. However palliative care is much broader and what palliative care offers is constantly evolving and ever changing.

“National Palliative Care Week is an important week in the annual calendar to highlight how palliative care helps people with chronic illnesses to live well and to have a better quality of life,” Ms Robson said.

The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service is committed to providing optimal quality end of life care and support which recognises the unique needs of a person who has a terminal condition, and also their family members.

The SCHHS has recently boosted its palliative care services by implementing a new advanced nursing role which provides support to palliative care patients with complex health care needs throughout their entire healthcare journey.

“Nurse Navigators have expert clinical knowledge, and coordinate care across the inpatient, outpatient and community settings, providing education, symptom management and empowering patients to make decisions about their own health care.”

Ms Robson says National Palliative Care Week is the perfect opportunity to provide information to the community to reduce the fears and myths associated with Palliative Care.

“Talking about Palliative Care can be difficult, but it’s important to take a moment and think about end of life care.”

The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service will host a number of local events for National Palliative Care Week May 22 – 28.
Sunshine Coast
Hospital and Health Service

Media statement

- **Palliative Care Community Forum** - An education and networking event for palliative care community partners.
  - **Where**: Dove Palliative Care Unit, Caloundra Hospital
  - **When**: Tuesday May 24, 10:30am – 1:30pm

- **National Palliative Care Week event** – Palliative care health professionals available to converse with the public about advance care planning.
  - **Where**: Nambour Library
  - **When**: Thursday May 26, 9:30am – 12:30pm


ENDS

Media contact: Alexia Kelly | 5470 5833

Follow us! 🇦🇺 📚/twitter/