

# FLU PANDEMIC RESOURCE DIRECTORY LISTING

## Access to Palliative Care Service in New York State

According to the American Hospital Association database, there are more than 80 hospital-based palliative care programs in New York State. These interdisciplinary programs provide consultative services to manage symptoms associated with chronic or acute illness; some of them have dedicated inpatient units to which patients can be transferred for 24/7 care management and surveillance. You can access a hospital-based palliative care program near you by going to [www.GetPalliativeCare.org](http://www.GetPalliativeCare.org), a listing administered by the Center to Advance Palliative Care at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

When to contact palliative care:

- When there is prolonged or difficult ventilator withdrawal or consideration of ventilator withdrawal with expected death
- When ordinary circumstances, there would be consideration of ICU admission and/or mechanical ventilation but under pandemic circumstances the patient is unlikely to have access to ventilator support
- When there is uncertainty regarding prognosis
- When there are difficult to control physical or emotional symptoms
- When the patient, family or physician require assistance with goals of care discussions; for example, when family distress impairs surrogate decision-making
- When there are conflicts about DNR orders
- When the patient or family experience psychological or spiritual distress
- When it is likely that the patient or family will benefit from some support in considering hospice as an option

What to expect from palliative care providers in the acute care setting:

- A consultation and recommendations addressing the specific clinical considerations identified by the referring physician
- Collaboration with the referring physician including assumption of care management as needed
- Expert pain and symptom management interventions
- A focus on the concerns and needs of the patient, the family and the staff caring for the patient and family
- Collaboration with outplacement initiatives including writing medication orders for care management in no

If your hospital has a palliative care program, it will be an important resource during a Flu pandemic.