

How do I access this service?

Referrals can be taken as and when required, and you may be referred several times depending on your fluctuating needs. Hospice at Home care is appropriate for anyone with a palliative diagnosis.

Referrals can be received from:

- District Nurses
- GPs
- Macmillan Nurses
- Specialist Nurses
- Internal (other Hospice services)
- Self referral (family & friends)

For further information please contact the Hospice at Home team on 01325 254321.



St Teresa's
Hospice
Giving to life

**The Woodlands, Woodland Road,
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For more information about our services:

www.darlingtonhospice.org.uk

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HOSPICE AT HOME



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What is Hospice at Home?

Our Hospice at Home service aims to bring hospice care into your home environment. We recognise that hospice care is not just about buildings or services - it is a philosophy of care that revolves around you and your family and which can be taken into hospitals, hospices, nursing homes and your own home. We work alongside other community teams to provide basic nursing care and emotional support to enable you to be cared for at home.

Many people express the wish to die at home. However, due to the physical demands and the emotional burden this puts on carers, patients can often be admitted to hospital for their last remaining days. This can cause a great deal of distress to both patient and carer.

The Hospice at Home team helps to alleviate these problems by providing practical help and support in the form of planned visits.

Hospice at Home operates 7 days a week, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, and is coordinated by St Teresa's Hospice from our base at The Woodlands, Woodland Road.

The Team

We aim to provide support to both you and your family or carers with:

- **Respect** - a confidential service for each individual and their family
- **Dignity** - for those who are living with a life limiting condition
- **Professionalism** - staff trained to provide high quality care

The Hospice at Home Team Leader is a dedicated Registered Nurse who will provide comprehensive assessments and advice. The team is supported by highly-trained Health Care Assistants, giving basic personal care to patients and providing respite and invaluable practical and emotional support for your carers and all the family. Members of our medical admin team arrange visits and liaise with families.

Medical Cover

Your GP remains responsible for monitoring your medical needs. The District Nurse supports symptom management in conjunction with other specialist services. The Hospice at Home team works closely with all members of this team in the provision of your care.

How often can help be available?

Hospice at Home is a short term, flexible service that is based on your palliative needs. Care is normally provided for no longer than 12 weeks - if long term social care is required then assistance can be given to access other appropriate services via the St Teresa's Hospice Family Support Team.

The care provided to you by the Hospice at Home team is based on your individual need following a nursing assessment; this can range from a few hours per week to regular overnight visits.