

# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) and Palliative Care

## April 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19)  
and the palliative care  
response

Dear Colleagues,

As we navigate these unprecedented times together, our Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Team has compiled a list of palliative care resources to help us respond during these challenging times. All of the resources listed below have been posted to the Health PEI Staff Resource Centre website @ <https://src.healthpei.ca/clinical-resources> and the COVID-19 page @ <https://src.healthpei.ca/covid-19>

1. **Symptom Management** BC Centre for Palliative Care Guidelines for adult patients with COVID-19 for adult patients receiving end-of-life supportive care outside of the ICU.  
<https://bc-cpc.ca/cpc/publications/symptom-management-guidelines/>
2. **Help with Breathing Decision Aid** to assist patients with underlying, serious illness (like heart or lung or cancer) facing a decision about getting short-term help with breathing.  
[https://respectingchoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Decision\\_Aid\\_Help\\_with\\_Breathing.pdf](https://respectingchoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Decision_Aid_Help_with_Breathing.pdf)
3. **End of Life Care in the ED** for the patient imminently dying of a highly transmissible acute respiratory infection (like COVID19) including approach to withdrawal of mechanical ventilation.  
[https://emottawablog.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/eolc\\_45268221-3.png](https://emottawablog.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/eolc_45268221-3.png)  
<https://caep.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/EOLC-COVID-protocol.pdf>
4. **Respecting Choices® Person-Centered Care COVID-19 Resources**  
<https://respectingchoices.org/covid-19-resources/> includes a number of helpful resources to have planning conversations in COVID-19, tools to support specific treatment decisions and resources for patients.
5. **Pocket Guide for Serious Illness Conversations with High Risk, Community-Based COVID-19 Patients** training <https://www.ariadnelabs.org/>

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we have decided to cancel our Annual Provincial Palliative Care Conference planned for June. We hope to reschedule this conference once everything is clear with COVID-19. In the meantime, our Pallium Canada partner in collaboration with the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has been working diligently to develop flexible solutions to continue to support our palliative care training needs in light of the pandemic.

Pallium Canada is now providing free online training modules on palliative care for all health care professionals in response to COVID-19. For more information about this great online learning opportunity, go to <https://www.pallium.ca/course/covid-19-response-free-online-modules/>

I wish all colleagues strength and courage as we navigate through these difficult times.



Dr. Mireille Lecours  
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On behalf of the Provincial Integrated Palliative Care Team

**Health PEI**