



# Quality Palliative Care in Long Term Care Alliance: Tools for Change

## **What is it?**

*Tools for Change* is a resource that was created by the Quality Palliative Care in Long Term Care (QPC-LTC) Alliance to guide long term care homes in Canada that are creating their own formalized palliative care programs. The Alliance consists of 30 researchers & knowledge brokers, 50 community organizational partners, over 30 students along with Bethammi Nursing Home, Hogarth Riverview Manor, Creekway Village and Allendale Long Term Care Home. The contribution of all QPC-LTC Alliance members in this work is gratefully acknowledged. The Alliance members developed a model of care for palliative care in long term care that is supported by multiple quality improvement interventions for implementing education, direct care, community partnerships, and policy and program development. These individual implementation toolkits make up this overarching toolkit for developing Quality Palliative Care in Long Term Care Homes. This toolkit including the model and interventions is available on the Alliance website at [www.palliativealliance.ca](http://www.palliativealliance.ca) .

## **Why was the tool created?**

This toolkit is a main outcome of the Alliance's participatory action research over five years. The project, called a Community University Research Alliance, was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Knowledge Translation component was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The overarching goal of this project was to improve quality of life for residents with progressive, chronic and life limiting illnesses who are living and dying within their long term care homes. These include residents with diseases of the liver, heart, lung, kidney, cancer and dementias.

## What is it?

The toolkit outlines a model of care that was developed using literature on innovative practices and guidelines for providing palliative care and research data indicating the successes of the four long term care home that volunteered to be study sites. An audit tool was created as a companion to the model to help long term care homes self-assess their current structures and processes for palliative care. In areas where long term care homes choose to do quality improvement, our practical toolkits are offered to help homes develop or enhance their structures and processes and improve the delivery of palliative care.

## How can long term care homes use this toolkit?

Long term care homes can use this toolkit to do a self-assessment on their current provision of palliative care. This toolkit is meant to be a guide and resource, offering long term care homes a way to assess their palliative care delivery and to continue to enhance or develop their existing programs. *Long term care homes are free to copy and share any parts of this toolkit that is of use to them. They may also adapt these toolkit to better fit the needs of their organization.* Use of the model and toolkits should be acknowledged as: name of tool, version #, date, Quality Palliative Care in Long Term Care Alliance, [www.palliativealliance.ca](http://www.palliativealliance.ca)

## More Information

For more information regarding the Alliance or toolkit please visit [www.palliativealliance.ca](http://www.palliativealliance.ca) or email us at [palliativealliance@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:palliativealliance@lakeheadu.ca)



## Full Acknowledgement

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This project would not be possible without the four long term care home study sites included Bethammi Nursing Home, Hogarth Riverview Manor, Creek Way Village and Allendale Long Term Care Home. We would like to thank the four personal Support Worker Leads in these homes:

Jackie McDonald, Bethammi Nursing Home  
Lina Moore, Hogarth Riverview Manor  
Lisa Burmaster, Creek Way Village  
Stella Jamieson, Allendale Nursing Home

The Alliance was composed of several co-investigators, collaborators, project staff, community partners, and students listed below.

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## **Community Partners**

Advocacy Centre for the Elderly  
Allendale Long-Term Care Home  
Alzheimer Society of Hamilton/Halton  
Alzheimer Society of Ontario  
Alzheimer Society of Thunder Bay  
Anishnawbi Mushkiki  
Bethammi Nursing Home  
Canadian Coalition for Seniors Mental Health  
Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association  
Canadian Virtual Hospice  
Carpenter Hospice  
College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario  
Concerned Friends of Ontario  
Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning  
Confederation College  
Creek Way Village  
Family Councils Program  
Halton Peel Palliative Care Consultant Education  
Hogarth Riverview Manor  
Hospice Northwest  
Hospice PC Network, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant  
Indian Youth Friendship Society  
L'Accueil Francophone de TB  
Lakehead University - Department of Languages  
Lakehead University - Gerontology Program  
Lakehead University - School of Nursing  
Lakehead University - School of Social Work  
Life and Death Matters  
Lutheran Community Care Centre  
Mississauga Halton Palliative Care  
Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology  
National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly  
North West Community Care Access Centre CCAC  
North East Ontario End-Of-Life Care Network  
Northwestern Ontario End-Of-Life Care Network  
ON Association of Non-Profit Homes - Services for Seniors  
ON Interdisciplinary Council for Aging and Health  
Ontario Long Term Care Association  
Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual & Religious Care  
Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse  
Ontario Palliative Care Association - Pain & Symptom Management  
Palliative Care Program Pain Management Program St. Joseph's Hospital  
Saint Elizabeth Health Care Ontario Community Support Association  
Saint Joseph's Care Group  
Saint Joseph's Health Centre of Sudbury  
Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging  
Seniors Health Research Transfer Network (SHRTN)  
Thunder Bay Multicultural Association  
Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre -Nurse led Outreach Team  
Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre Regional