## Patient & Family Guide

# The Nova Scotia Green Sleeve

Information for Patients, Families, and Substitute Decision Makers



## **About the Green Sleeve**

#### What is a Green Sleeve?

The Green Sleeve is a place for you to keep important documents. These documents can help you share your health care plans, goals, and care wishes with your health care providers.

#### Who should have a Green Sleeve?

Anyone with a life-limiting illness should have a Green Sleeve.

### What should I keep in my Green Sleeve?

Examples of documents that you may wish to keep in your Green Sleeve include:

- Emergency Health Services (EHS) Special Patient Program (SPP) care plan
- Personal Directive
- Nova Scotia Health Expected Death at Home form
- Information about your goals of care (like treatment preferences, the level of medical intervention that matches your goals of care)

Please ask your health care provider for more information about any of these documents.

## What should I do with my Green Sleeve?



- At home, keep your Green Sleeve somewhere easy to find, like on top of the fridge. If you have a palliative care binder, you may keep it in the front of the binder.
- Show your Green
   Sleeve to health
   care providers who
   give care in your
   home, including
   paramedics if
   emergency help is
   needed.



- Take your Green
   Sleeve to your
   health care
   appointments.
   Take it with
   you if you go to
   the Emergency
   Department (ED).
  - If it is updated while there, be sure to bring it home with you.
- The forms in your Green Sleeve have important information and instructions.
   Review them regularly with your health care providers, and before tests or treatments.

# Ask your health care provider for more information about creating a Green Sleeve.

#### Resources

# Advance Care Planning: Making Your Personal and Medical Wishes Known

www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources/1942 **Advance Care Planning**http://nshpca.ca/advance-care-planning

#### **EHS Special Patient Program**

https://novascotia.ca/dhw/ehs/palliative-care.asp

#### **Palliative Care**

www.nshealth.ca/clinics-programs-and-services/palliative-care

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: https://library.nshealth.ca/Patients-Guides

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: Call 811 or visit: https://811.novascotia.ca

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