

## BETHESDA HEALTH CARE AND CANCER SUPPORT WA COLLABORATION

Bethesda Health Care has just signed a Service Level Agreement with Cancer Support WA that will benefit the patients and their families of the hospitals Palliative Care Unit (PCU), as well as the hospital staff and doctors.

Cancer Support WA, based in nearby Cottesloe are now providing counselling, support and education resources to patients of the PCU and their families, and complementing the existing services that are currently being provided in the unit.

Bethesda Health Care CEO Ms Yasmin Naglazas said that 'we are thrilled to be working in collaboration with Cancer Support WA to add value to our existing service provision. Our care team in the PCU consists of doctors, nurses, volunteers, chaplains, social workers and counsellors – all of these people will be working together with Cancer Support WA to offer a supportive, tailored and proactive approach to end-of-life care or the management of a cancer diagnosis which may result in a positive prognosis'.

'Our aim is to extend the support that Cancer Support WA provides to other services throughout the hospital including to breast cancer and urological cancer surgical patients', Yasmin said. 'Patients and their families are seeking all options as part of the care when individuals are diagnosed with cancer or a life-limiting illness; it's really about offering an holistic approach'.

Cancer Support WA's partnership with Bethesda represents a significant leap forward for integrative cancer care in Western Australia, said Cancer Support WA CEO Ms Mandy BeckerKnox. 'Cancer Support WA has always provided a comprehensive suite of support services and a wellness education program from our Cottesloe premises, but this partnership represents the first time these services are to be offered in a hospital environment.

Cancer Support WA's counsellors and facilitators specialise in psycho-oncology and other aspects of complementary cancer care which supports the medical treatment and palliative care patients already receive at Bethesda Health Care. Our integrative approach of complementary therapies includes a comprehensive wellness program, support services and counselling by professional and qualified counselors in psycho-oncology.



# Media Release

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**Bethesda**  
health care

The rising trend in cancer diagnosis highlights the growing need for service providers to work collaboratively to respond to patients' unique circumstances and individual needs, and work towards a symbiotic model of care which addresses every dimension of the person, including the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual.

The opportunity to combine complementary treatment services within Bethesda's PCU allows both Bethesda Health Care and Cancer Support WA to enhance our provision of support to patients while they are in a medical setting', Mandy said.

Bethesda Health Care is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont who has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for more than 70 years.

[www.bethesda.org.au](http://www.bethesda.org.au)

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