



*Information for
patients and families
affected by cancer*



Supportive Care:

Kilmore Hospital will be providing supportive care screening to all patients with cancer and their families and carers from December 2011.

What are Supportive Care needs?

Supportive care needs can include:

- Physical needs - (e.g. pain, fatigue, nausea)
- Psychological needs (e.g. anxiety, distress)
- Social needs (e.g. practical supports, carer needs)
- Information needs (e.g. relating to diagnosis, prognosis, treatments)
- Spiritual needs (e.g. addressing hopelessness, despair)

Why screen for Supportive Care needs?

"Evidence shows that cancer patients who have had their supportive care needs addressed have lower rates of anxiety, mood disorders, nausea, vomiting and pain, and significantly greater knowledge about the disease and treatment" (National Breast Cancer Centre and National Cancer Control Initiative, 2003).

