

# Key Messages

- Hospice is not a place, it's a philosophy. (It offers an multidisciplinary approach to end of life care, and a programme of services available to the patient and their family wherever the patient may be.)
- Hospice does not mean hopeless (Pilgrims' philosophy emphasises the creative and positive outcomes to be realised by defining and achieving personal goals and by living life as fully as possible.)
- Hospices provide support for both patients and their families.
- Hospice care is free for patients.
- The care hospices provide is tailored to the individual needs of each patient.
- Hospice care provides relief from pain and suffering.
- Pilgrims Hospices is a charity rooted in the local community.
- The majority of Pilgrims' patients are cared for home.
- Just over 40% of people admitted to Pilgrims Hospices have their symptoms controlled so they can return home.
- Hospice care is for people with other conditions, not just cancer.
- Hospice care does not end when the patient dies. (Bereavement support is extended to families and carers free of charge when the patient has died.)

