

Compassionate care led by Catholic values

Covenant Health's 150-year legacy of caring for the vulnerable in Alberta exemplifies the palliative care philosophy of person-centred, family-focussed, community-based care. The Catholic sisters who founded our institution were widely known for their compassionate and holistic care in ministering to the dying.

Covenant Health Leadership in Palliative Care

- Serving as part of Alberta's integrated health system, Covenant Health works collaboratively with Alberta Health Services as a significant provider of palliative care in Alberta.
- Covenant Health has provided leadership in Palliative Care in Alberta since the establishment of palliative care services at the Edmonton General in 1983 which continues to this day as the Mel Miller Hospice.
- We operate 71 designated palliative care beds, including a 20 bed tertiary palliative care unit, and provide quality care at end of life in all our facilities across Alberta--in rural and urban communities and in acute and continuing care settings.

Community	Facility	# of Palliative Beds
Edmonton	Edmonton General Continuing Care Centre	26
	Grey Nuns Community Hospital	20
	St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital	14
Lethbridge	St. Michael's Health Centre	10
St. Albert	Youville Home	1
Total		71

- Covenant Health has also received approval from Alberta Health Services for 10 palliative care beds at St. Joseph's Home in Medicine Hat.
- The Tertiary Palliative Care Unit at the Grey Nuns Community Hospital opened in 1995 and is a world-renowned teaching and research centre in palliative medicine, pain and symptom management and provides care for Albertans with high symptom needs. The unit is part of a comprehensive integrated regional palliative care service, in partnership with Alberta Health Services in the Edmonton Zone. The majority of admissions to the Tertiary Palliative Care unit are for suffering related to severe psycho-social and spiritual distress.
- Covenant Health has a comprehensive Palliative and End-of-Life strategy with a vision of meeting the needs of dying Albertans for quality end of life care through investment in four pillars:
 - education of health care professionals, volunteers and public
 - research
 - clinical services best practice, including implementation of end-of-life pathways
 - service planning and consultation services for front line providers