



Rennie Grove Peace

How to refer to Rennie Grove Peace palliative and end of life care services in Buckinghamshire



How to refer

1 Complete a referral form

All palliative and end of life referrals from healthcare professionals working in Buckinghamshire need to go through the Single Point of Access (SPA) referral route, please ► [click here](#) for the referral form.

2 Call

For urgent referrals or to discuss a potential referral, healthcare professionals can call SPA on ☎ **01296 32 13 41**.

If you want to refer a patient who is within the acute setting, please contact the palliative care service within that hospital.

When to refer

From the moment of diagnosis, we are here to support patients – offering assessments and ongoing access to care whenever it's needed.

Who to refer

We are here for patients with all progressive life-limiting illnesses, including Parkinson's, progressive neurological and respiratory conditions, incurable cancer and heart failure – and their families and loved ones. We also support people living with frailty.

► [Click here for referral tips](#)

If you have any questions about our care, please contact the Rennie Grove Peace Coordination Centre:

☎ **01923 60 60 30** ✉ coordinationcentre@renniegrovepeace.org

Services

Community specialist palliative care services

24/7 support is available for patients who choose to receive care at home, including those living in care homes.

A specialist community nurse will assess each patient's individual needs and work closely with the patient and members of the multidisciplinary team to develop a personalised care plan. The community specialist nurse can also support patients to think ahead and put an Advance Care Plan in place.

Palliative social worker services

Our palliative social workers are available to help patients with a progressive life-limiting illness, and those close to them, to feel more in control of their life challenges, including support accessing resources and services within their community.

Benefits advice

Welfare and benefits advice is available for patients and their families.

Living Well support

Patients who are well enough for outpatients services can access nurse-led clinics, assessments and support services designed to help them live well with their illness, such as exercise and wellbeing classes, complementary therapies, emotional support and much more.

Please note that these Living Well support services are currently only available in Hertfordshire (St Albans and Watford), so can only be accessed by those who are able and willing to travel. Plans are in progress to provide Living Well support in Buckinghamshire in 2026.

Dying well

As well as managing a patient's pain and symptoms, we also provide spiritual and emotional care. Providing spiritual support to patients who are receiving palliative care has been shown to have markedly positive effects on a range of health outcomes.^{1,2}

Services with different referral routes

To refer patients to the following services, call the Rennie Grove Peace Coordination Centre on ☎ 01923 60 60 30.

Compassionate Neighbours ► [click here](#)

The Compassionate Neighbours scheme helps to reduce isolation and loneliness in patients with a progressive life-limiting illness or patients who are bereaved. A trained Compassionate Neighbour volunteer provides companionship and practical support.

Compassionate Cafés ► [click here](#)

Compassionate Cafés provide a space for people affected by bereavement or any type of loss. It is drop-in and free to attend.

A Compassionate Café is run at Great Missenden Library (High Street, HP16 0AL) on the last Wednesday of the month from 10am to 11.30am.

Bereavement support

Trained talking and listening professionals offer a wide range of bereavement support for adults and children, in group or one-to-one sessions if assessed as needing it. Drop-in bereavement groups are also available.

► [Rennie Grove Peace bereavement support](#)



Support Hubs – drop-in ► [click here](#)

An informal space where people who have been affected by the diagnosis of a progressive life-limiting illness can drop in to meet others for a drink and a friendly chat. Trained volunteers offer information, guidance and signposting to available services.

A Support Hub will run at Chilterns Lifestyle Centre (Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH) on the third Monday of the month, from 2:30pm to 4:30pm, starting on 16 March 2026.

Education and support for care home staff

Training and support is available on request to care home staff to help them better support their patients with palliative and end of life care needs.

► [Rennie Grove Peace training for care homes](#)

Patients living in a care home who need individual support should be referred in the usual way via the Single Point of Access (SPA) referral form available [here](#).

Marie Curie support ► [click here](#)

Marie Curie provides one-to-one care and support overnight in a patient's home.



Referral tips

Refer as early as possible – With earlier referrals, we can help patients live well for longer.

For urgent referrals, healthcare professionals can call the Single Point of Access (SPA) on [01296 32 13 41](tel:01296321341) (9am-5pm, 7 days per week).

Include as much clinical information as possible – Complete all the fields within the referral form and include as much information as possible. Clinical letters and medication lists are helpful.

Identify and include the patient's Phase of Illness and their AKPS – Identify the patient's Phase of Illness and their AKPS (Australia-modified Karnofsky Performance Status) which is a measure of the patient's overall performance status. See the following tables:

Phase of illness

Phase of Illness	Patient is in this phase when...
Stable	Patient's problems and symptoms are adequately controlled by the established plan of care and further interventions to maintain symptom control and quality of life have been planned and family/carer situation is relatively stable and no new issues are apparent.
Unstable	An urgent change in the plan of care or emergency treatment is required because the patient experiences a new problem that was not anticipated in the existing plan of care and/or the patient experiences a rapid increase in the severity of a current problem and/or family/carer circumstances change suddenly impacting patient care.
Deteriorating	The care plan addresses anticipated needs, but requires periodic review, because the patient's overall functional status declines and the patient experiences a gradual worsening of existing problem(s) and/or the patient experiences a new, but anticipated, problem and/or the family/carer experiences gradual worsening distress that impacts the patient care.
Dying	Death is likely within days.

AKPS Assessment Criteria

AKPS Assessment Criteria	Score
Normal; no complaints; no evidence of disease	100
Able to carry on normal activity; minor sign of symptoms of disease	90
Normal activity with effort; some signs or symptoms of disease	80
Cares for self; unable to carry on normal activity or to do active work	70
Able to care for most needs; but requires occasional assistance	60
Considerable assistance and frequent medical care required	50
In bed more than 50% of the time	40
Almost completely bedfast	30
Totally bedfast and requiring extensive nursing care by professionals and/or family	20
Comatose or barely rousable	10
Dead	0

If you have any questions about our care, please contact the Rennie Grove Peace Coordination Centre:

☎ 01923 60 60 30 ✉ coordinationcentre@renniegrovepeace.org

References

- 1 Cherny NI, Fallon MT, Kaasa S, et al. Oxford textbook of palliative medicine. 5th ed. Oxford University Press; Oxford: 2015. [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]
- 2 Groot M, Ebenau AF, Koning H, Visser A, Leget C, van Laarhoven HWM, et al. Spiritual care by nurses in curative cancer care: protocol for a national, multicentre, mixed method study. J Adv Nurs. 2017;73:2201–7. doi: 10.1111/jan.13332. [PubMed] [CrossRef] [Google Scholar]

renniegrovepeace.org

Rennie House, Icknield Way Industrial Estate, Tring HP23 4JX

☎ 01442 89 02 22 ✉ info@renniegrovepeace.org

Registered Charity Number: 1201713

Created December 2025

158_BucksReferralGuide_A4_V1_211025