



SILVER CHAIN

EVERY MINUTE. EVERY HOUR. EVERY DAY. WE CARE.

Services Your Patients Can Benefit From Today

Metropolitan Palliative Care Services

Silver Chain's expert professional team is comprised of registered nurses, doctors, enrolled nurses, care aides, counsellors, chaplains and trained volunteers. If your patient is being discharged from hospital, they may be seen by our Admissions Facilitator for a smooth transition back home. A registered nurse with palliative care skills is available 24 hours, seven days a week. The teams are supported by clinical nurse consultants and a medical consultant.

Continence Management and Advice

If your patient has an ongoing bladder or bowel problem then the Continence Management and Advice Service can help. CMAS is a state-wide service established by the West Australian Government and delivered by Silver Chain. CMAS clients receive free advice and may be able to receive free pads or products up to the value of \$480 per year.

hospital@home

The hospital@home program provides 24 hours a day; seven day a week home based acute care to people in the metropolitan area. The level of care is equivalent to that provided in hospital; however it is provided in the comfort of the patient's home.

Wound Clinics

Silver Chain has specialist wound care nurses that provide ongoing wound and stoma management across metropolitan, rural and remote areas. Silver Chain has wound clinics in Curtin University, Kelmscott, Kinglsey, Stirling, Myaree, Mandurah, Collie, Bunbury, Geraldton and Albany.

CareLink Personal Alarms

Silver Chain's Personal CareLink Alarms offer an increased sense of security and wellbeing while assisting patients to maintain independence in their own home. By simply pressing a button, Carelink Personal Alarms enable patients to alert family, friends, or contacts of their need for assistance.

Home Care

Silver Chain can assist your patients to stay in their home and continue to live in their community if they are finding it difficult to cope with day to day tasks without support.

In Home Respite

Silver Chain can provide carers to come into patients' homes to provide a break for the family or primary carer. This can prevent patients entering hospital or a residential facility.

Aged Care Packages

Community Aged Care Packages (CACP) and Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH) are flexible health care and support packages which enable people to remain in their own home when they would otherwise require admission to a residential care facility.

Silver Chain Nurse Practitioners: An Important Innovation



■ Tuesday, 19 May 2009 marked the beginning of an exciting new era for Silver Chain, with the successful application of a designated Nurse Practitioner to spearhead the new Silver Chain Home Hospital.

Silver Chain's Nurse Practitioner, is a highly experienced Registered Nurse who has undergone specialised education and clinical training in order to be legally credentialed under the Nurse and Midwives Board of Western Australia. As a Nurse Practitioner he is able to provide Silver Chain clients with advanced levels of care including: specialised procedures, diagnosis of health problems, prescribe a variety of medications, authorise certain diagnostic investigations and refer onto other specialist health care workers when required.

Under the state Government's new health initiative and after five months of intense activity by the Home Hospital project team, Silver Chain is now one of the first non-government community based health care provider in Australia to be designated as an organisation that can incorporate Nurse Practitioners into their model of care. More importantly it enhances Silver Chain's ability to deliver acute and post acute nursing care to the people of Western Australia and further assist the staff at Silver Chain to keep people in need at home.

Benefits to Patient Care

Scenario 1: Wound biopsy. Jim is on a disability pension, has limited mobility and a chronic wound that needs to be biopsied to determine the best treatment. Traditionally Jim would be referred to the Outpatient's Department of a major teaching hospital and the appointment may take months to be realised. In collaboration

with Jim's GP a Nurse Practitioner specialising in wound care could do the biopsy at Jim's home, organise ongoing treatment and if required refer him on for specialist treatment.

Scenario 2: Cellulitis treated early. Ellen is a resident with mild dementia in a low care aged care facility who can't drive, has limited family support and has developed a lower limb cellulitis. Ellen's GP is unavailable for a home visit due to work demands and traditionally Ellen would require assessment in the Emergency Department of a public hospital by an Emergency Doctor prior to commencement of treatment. A Nurse Practitioner from Silver Chain's Home Hospital could visit Ellen in her home, diagnose her problem and commence treatment all within the familiarity of her own home.

Scenario 3: Weekend chest infection. Simon develops a serious chest infection over the weekend. He has no family support and his doctor is unavailable. Silver Chain's Home Hospital Nurse Practitioner could conduct an assessment in the home, refer Simon for x-rays and blood tests and commence first dose IV antibiotics if required.

Benefits to GPs

The introduction of Nurse Practitioners within the Silver Chain Home Hospital will help to reduce the immense pressure on emergency departments and also benefit a number of GPs who are not able to get to see their patients in the home but wish to maintain an active role in their patient's case management.

who cares...
we care