



Support at Home program – End-of-Life Pathway

Many older people wish to remain in their own homes with their family as they near the end of their life. The new End-of-Life Pathway will provide additional support to help older people remain at home if they are assessed as having 3 months or less to live.

The End-of-Life Pathway provides more funding for home care services.

Who is eligible for the End-of-Life Pathway?

The End-of-Life Pathway supports older people who have been diagnosed with 3 months or less to live.

The End-of-Life Pathway form must be completed by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner. The form will be available from the My Aged Care website from 1 November.

If the older person is already on Support at Home, their provider can request a high priority Support Plan Review to access the End-of-Life Pathway.

For an older person not on Support at Home, then either:

- A medical practitioner or nurse practitioner can complete the End-of-Life Pathway form and upload it to the 'Make a Referral' online tool on My Aged Care. GPs can use the e-referral option. This will trigger a request for a high priority aged care assessment.

- Their representative can apply for a high priority aged care assessment on the My Aged Care website. An End-of-Life Pathway form (completed by a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner) can be uploaded to the website or given to the assessor at the time of the assessment.

The End-of-Life Pathway can also be accessed by contacting My Aged Care on 1800 200 422 or visiting an Aged Care Specialist Officer (ACSO) at a Services Australia service centre. This is regardless of whether the person is already on Support at Home.

An aged care assessor will review the submitted End-of-Life Pathway form to confirm eligibility for the pathway.

Who will deliver the End-of-Life Pathway?

Support at Home participants are encouraged to retain their existing provider, if their provider can meet their needs under the End-of-Life Pathway. This means their existing care partner will be able to coordinate their end-of-life services.

New participants can use the Find a Provider tool on My Aged Care.

How much funding is available for the End-of-Life Pathway?

On the End-of-Life Pathway, an older person will receive funding of \$25,000 for home care services over a 12-week period.

Will they need to make a contribution?

For all Support at Home services, participant contributions apply for services delivered in the independence and everyday living service categories. For services in the clinical supports category (for example, nursing), there is no contribution as these services are fully funded by the government.

You can find out more in the fact sheet on participant contributions.

What services are available on the End-of-Life Pathway?

The older person can access services from the Support at Home service list, to suit their needs and in line with their high-priority assessment or Support Plan Review. Participants on the End-of-Life Pathway can receive funding for assistive technology, as needed.

What if they need services beyond 12 weeks?

The End-of-Life Pathway is for 12 weeks. If an older person has funding left, they can continue using it for an additional 4 weeks (16 weeks total). If the older person needs services beyond this time, they can request a high priority Support Plan Review so they can continue to receive services under an ongoing Support at Home classification.

For more information

To find out more about the End-of-Life Pathway, visit health.gov.au/support-at-home-short-term-supports.

If you have questions or concerns about your aged care, including Support at Home and the End-of-Life Pathway, you can speak to an aged care advocate by calling the **Aged Care Advocacy Line on 1800 700 600**. Provided by the **Older Persons Advocacy Network** (OPAN), this free and confidential service is independent of both government and aged care providers. OPAN will connect you with a local advocate in your state or territory.



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Getting started with aged care

If you need help around the house or are thinking about aged care homes, contacting My Aged Care is the first step.

 Visit myagedcare.gov.au  Phone **1800 200 422**

 Face-to-face by speaking with an Aged Care Specialist Officer (to book an appointment call **1800 227 475** or visit any Services Australia Service Centre).