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You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

If you are unhappy with the advice you have been given by your GP, consultant, or another healthcare professional, you may ask for a second (or further) opinion.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

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# **Bereavement Support Volunteers** (page 1 of 2)

## **Who are the Bereavement Support Volunteers?**

A specially selected team who have been given training in Bereavement Support, and who receive regular support and supervision themselves.

## **Who runs the Bereavement Service?**

The service is run by the Family Support Team at Salisbury Hospice.

The Support Volunteers have regular supervision and support from the Family Support Team.

## **What do the Bereavement Support Volunteers do?**

They offer, in complete confidence, time individual to you, as a bereaved person, to help you express your grief and discuss any difficulties at this time of major change.

## **What don't Bereavement Support Volunteers do?**

They are not able to offer befriending, social visiting, practical tasks, nursing.

## **Who may use the Bereavement Support Volunteer Service?**

Anyone related to, or close to, the person who has died under the care of the Salisbury Hospice and Palliative Care Services.

## **Will I always be visited by the same Support Volunteer?**

Yes, (except in very unusual circumstances).

## **How long will a visit be?**

Usually 1 hour but the time can be negotiated between yourself and the volunteer.

## **Will my Support Volunteer continue to visit me indefinitely?**

Your Support Volunteer will discuss with you how long they will continue to visit you.

## **Do I have to see a Support Volunteer?**

No. The choice is entirely up to you.

## **How often will I see a Bereavement Support Volunteer?**

This will be decided jointly by you and your Support Volunteer

**Salisbury Hospice**

 **01722 425113**



**How can I get a message to him/her?**

By telephoning the Salisbury Hospice and asking the staff to relay a message.

It is not our practice to give the Support Volunteers' home telephone numbers.

**Will what I talk about be confidential?**

Yes. The Bereavement Support Volunteer will keep written records of his/her visits to you. These will remain confidential within the Family Support Team. We would make contact with your doctor in an emergency.

**Where will we meet?**

Normally our Bereavement Support Volunteers will visit you in your home, but occasionally another venue might be thought more appropriate.

Your Bereavement Support Volunteer's name is:

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He/she will be pleased to visit you again on:

**Date**

**Time**

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