

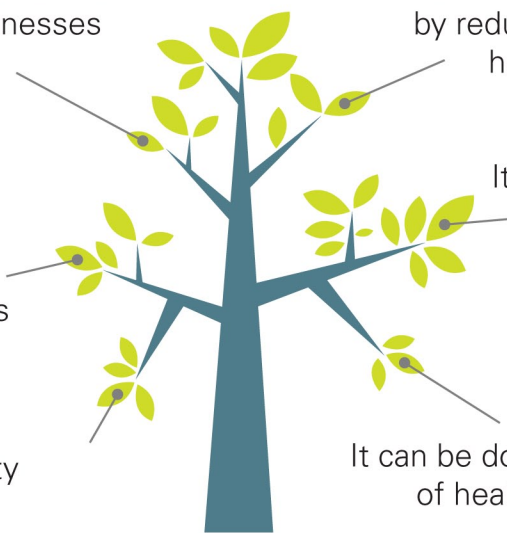
IMPROVING ACCESS TO PALLIATIVE CARE

WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE ?

It is care for patients with life-threatening illnesses & their families

It can be given in homes, health centres, hospitals and hospices

It improves quality of life

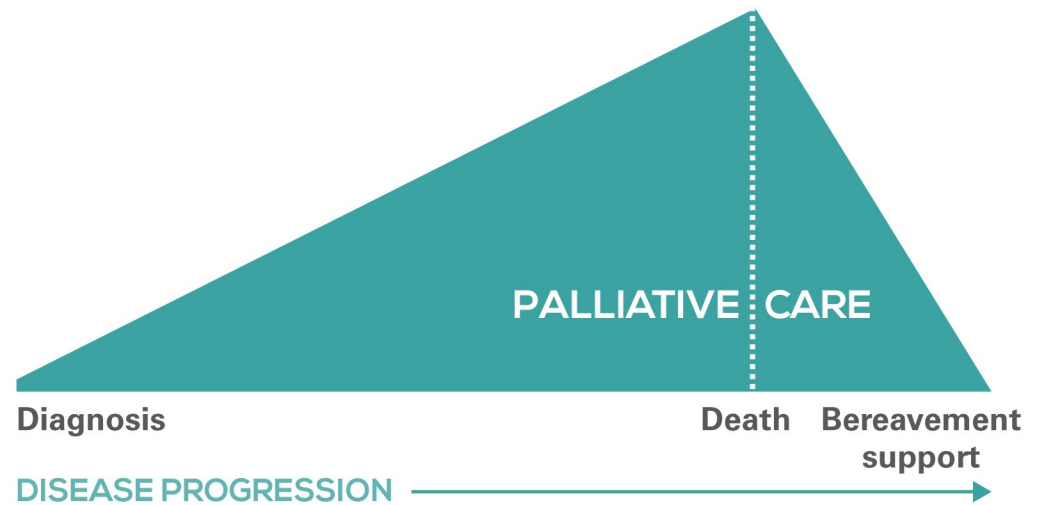


It benefits health systems by reducing unnecessary hospital admissions

It relieves physical, psychosocial & spiritual suffering

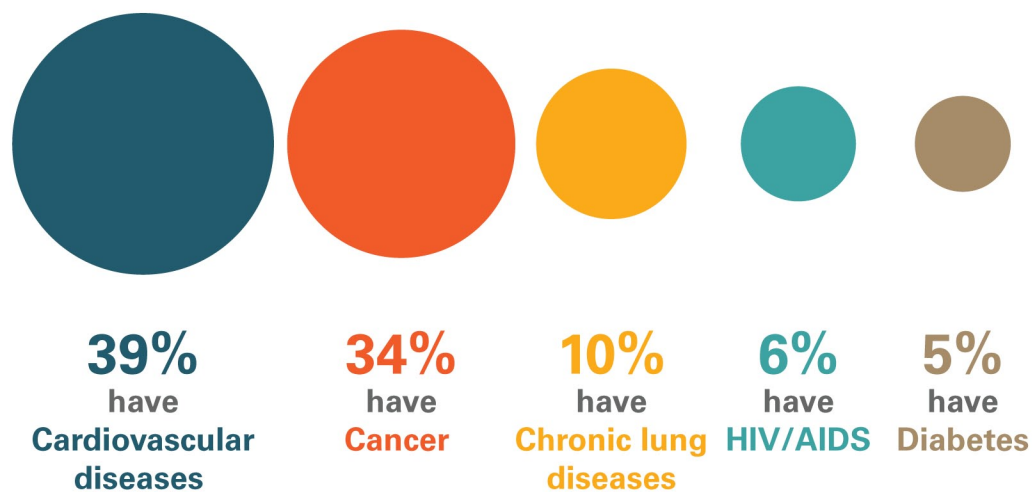
It can be done by many types of health professionals & volunteers

WHEN IS PALLIATIVE CARE NEEDED ?

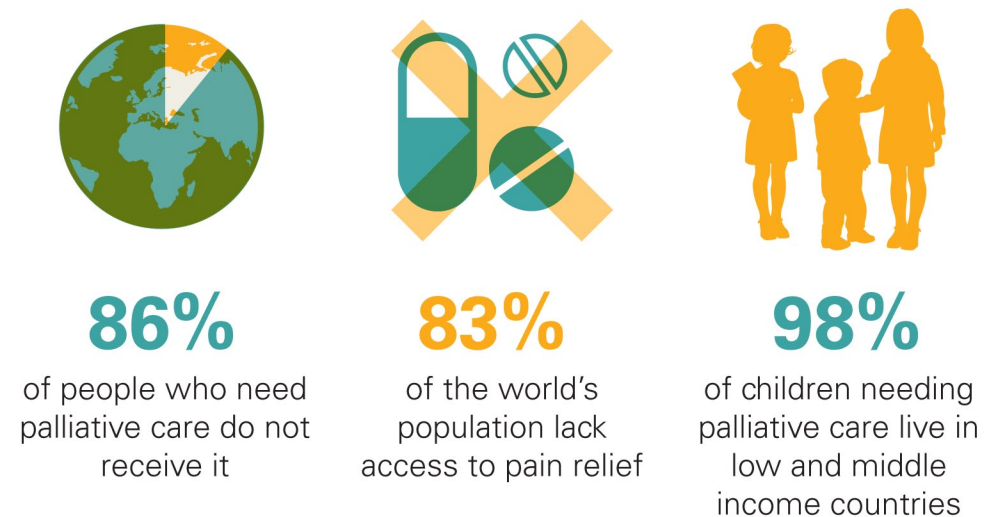


WHO NEEDS IT ?

Of the **40 million** people who need palliative care each year:



WHAT ARE THE GAPS ?



WHAT ARE THE BARRIERS ?



Poor public awareness of how palliative care can help



Cultural & social barriers, such as beliefs about pain and dying



Insufficient skills and capacities of health workers



Overly restrictive regulations for opioid pain relief

WHAT CAN COUNTRIES DO ?

Implement the **2014 World Health Assembly Resolution 67.19** on palliative care, by:

INTEGRATING PALLIATIVE CARE INTO NATIONAL HEALTH POLICIES



Revise laws & processes to improve access to opioid pain relief



Include palliative care in the training for health workers



Provide palliative care services, including through primary health care centres and homes