



Social Work and the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre Ambulatory Clinic

Information for patients and caregivers

Read this resource to learn:

- What a social worker is
- What a social worker does
- How social workers can help you and your caregiver
- How to contact the social worker



Patient Education



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What is a social worker?

Only social workers registered with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers can legally use the title “social worker.”

A “Registered Social Worker” (RSW) is someone who is registered with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers.

Social workers must follow a code of ethics, government laws and rules set by their college.

Peter Munk Cardiac Centre Ambulatory Clinic

The social worker is a member of the team in the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre Ambulatory Clinic along with:

- Doctors
- Nurses
- Dietitians
- Technicians
- Nurse practitioners
- Pharmacists
- Researchers
- Others

What does the social worker do?

The social worker can help you with the non-medical problems caused by your heart or vascular disease.

They understand how your illness can affect you and your caregiver.

How will the social worker help me and my caregiver?

The social worker will talk with you and ask you about your situation. They will listen to you to learn about the problems that are important to you.

The social worker can help you by:

- Providing support
- Suggesting ways of dealing with your problems
- Working with you to find solutions to problems

When should I talk to the social worker?

People need and want help with different things.

You or your caregiver might want to talk to the social worker about:

- Your feelings to receive support
- Finding resources such as home support services and counselling services
- Finding a family doctor
- Finding out how to get help paying for prescriptions
- Applying for income assistance programs and disability benefits
- Finding transportation
- Advance care planning and choosing a substitute decision maker
- Finding a new place to live
- Problems at work

How can I contact the social worker?

Ask any member of the clinic team to speak to the social worker.



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