



SAMARITAN HOSPICE CARE

FAMILY GUIDE TO HOSPICE CARE

HOSPICE IS ABOUT LIVING LIFE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE. IN FACT, PATIENTS AND FAMILIES RECEIVE THE GREATEST BENEFIT WHEN HOSPICE CARE IS STARTED EARLY.



WHEN SHOULD WE START THINKING ABOUT HOSPICE CARE?

When there are no more treatment options to cure your family member's disease, hospice becomes an option. With hospice, the focus is on comfort and quality of life.

Hospice may be the best option when you and your family member decide that treatment meant to cure is not worth its side effects, pain, and suffering. It helps to make the choice for hospice sooner rather than later.

WHO DECIDES ABOUT HOSPICE CARE?

As the family caregiver, you and your family member are the ones to decide about seeking hospice care. Many people find that it helps to make this choice only after talking with other family members, doctors, and caregivers. You must freely make the choice - meaning that no one can force you to accept hospice care.

Your doctor may be the first one to suggest hospice care. Or you may be the first to mention it. Please do not be afraid to talk about hospice. Once the decision is made for hospice care, a doctor must sign an order requesting it.

WHO PAYS FOR HOSPICE CARE?

If the patient has Medicare Part A coverage, the Medicare Hospice Benefit pays for professional fees, medical equipment, and medication. Hospice patients can keep getting Medicare benefits to treat health problems other than the terminal illness.

Most private health insurance plans pay for hospice and follow Medicare guidelines. State Medicaid programs pay for hospice services as well. Insurance eligibility can be checked by Hospice Agency or calling your insurance.



TEL: 213-947-3737
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"We cannot change the outcome, but we can affect the journey." - Ann Richardson

OUR WEBSITE
www.samaritanhospicecare.com

"Your comfort is our ultimate concern"



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WHAT SERVICES ARE INCLUDED IN HOSPICE CARE?



Care from a team of trained doctors, nurses, social worker, chaplain, home care aides and other health care providers. The team may also include physical and occupational therapists.



Family support. This includes emotional support as well as teaching how to do certain health care tasks such as medication administration and changing dressings.



Medication to relieve nausea, pain, shortness of breath, agitation, and other symptoms. Medical supplies and equipment, such as a hospital bed or wheelchair.



Access to the hospice team by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

WHERE IS HOSPICE CARE PROVIDED?



Now more than ever, patients and their families want the peace-of-mind that comes from receiving care and support for an advanced illness at home. We adhere to all CDC Infection control guidelines and always wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure the safety of our patients and their loved ones.



For our patients who are already living in a skilled or assisted living facility, our hospice team can work with the facility to coordinate the best plan of care. Providing hospice care at a skilled or assisted living facility does not take the place of the facility's existing staff. We supplement the facility's care and coordinate between doctors, nursing staff, the patient, family and others to ensure you are always comfortable and your needs are being met.

