



Hospice Guide for Patients & Families

Hospice care is expert, compassionate, individualized care which focuses on personal goals and optimizes quality of life for people facing life-limiting illness.

We care where you are.

What is the hospice benefit?

- The emphasis of hospice care is on effective symptom management.
- The goal is to make the patient as physically and emotionally comfortable as possible to enable the patient to remain wherever they call home and ensure there are minimal disruptions to normal activities.
- Counseling and respite services are available to the family of the hospice patient.
- Hospice considers both the patient and the family as the unit of care.



What is the cost of hospice?

Medicare pays for 100% of hospice care once a patient is eligible. Elara Caring accepts Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurances that have a hospice benefit.

Hospice benefits:

- Physician services and nursing care
- Social worker services
- Certified nurse aide and homemaker services
- Chaplain and spiritual counseling
- Medical equipment such as wheelchairs, medical beds or oxygen
- Medical supplies
- Medications associated with admitting diagnosis and related conditions
- Education and resources to support:
 - Function (ambulation, transferring, dressing, bathing feeding, toileting)
 - Nutrition (eating, drinking, hydration, nourishment)
- 13-month bereavement support

What if my loved one's condition improves?

The patient always has the right to stop hospice services for any reason at any time. The patient also can resume the hospice benefit as long as they meet eligibility. The Elara Caring care team can help facilitate this process.

Each patient has unique care needs.

The frequency of visits is based on the patient's individual care plan and is modified as often as needed to meet patient and family needs and goals.

Your Elara Caring Hospice Team

Registered Nurses

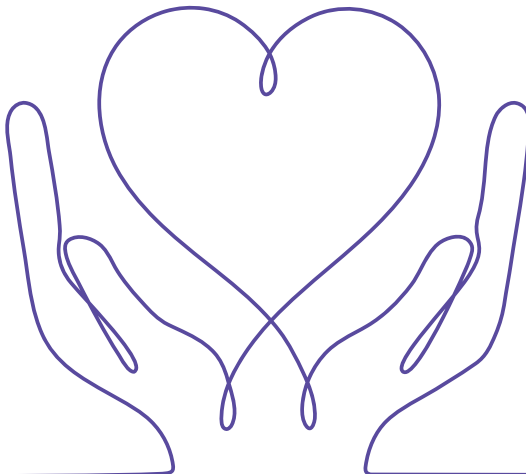
Hospice nurses are skilled in assessing and managing a patient's pain and symptoms. They are trained caregivers who provide hands-on patient care. Skilled listeners, hospice nurses comfort the family while also teaching them how to take the best care of their loved one.

Physicians

Every patient in hospice is under the care of a hospice physician who closely monitors the progression of the patient's illness, prescribes appropriate medications and coordinates care with other members of the team. Hospice physicians invite a patient's preferred physician to stay as involved as they wish in the care plan.

Hospice Aides

Hospice aides are certified nursing assistants who provide personal care to the patient, such as bathing, dressing or mouth care. They are available to ease the burden on family caregivers by participating in activities such as light housekeeping.



Medical Social Workers

Hospice social workers provide emotional and psychosocial support to the patient and family. They coordinate the logistics of the patient's care, working with insurance companies or the Veterans Administration and helping with finances, funeral planning or other tasks. Social workers are always available to lend a friendly and listening ear.

Chaplains

Regardless of a person's beliefs or religious traditions, hospice chaplains are available to address the spiritual issues that often arise as a patient nears death. The hospice chaplain is there for the patient and the family, honoring and supporting the cultural traditions and values they hold dear. When requested, the hospice chaplain works with the patient's specified clergy.

Volunteers

Hospice volunteers are specially trained in hospice and end-of-life issues to provide compassionate companionship and support for patients and families. Volunteers are an important part of hospice. Their duties can range from visiting patients to crafting patient items to documenting patients' life stories to helping in the office.

Bereavement Support

The bereavement coordinators address both anticipatory grief and loss after death. Hospice families receive bereavement support up to 13 months after a death, including consistent contact, support groups, grief education and one-on-one visits. Bereavement support is always available to those who have experienced the death of a loved one.





We focus on the
patient's goals of care
and quality of life



We can help.

Elara.com/Locations

Elara Caring 
We care where you are.