



Understanding Hospice and Palliative Care



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Fact

- **25% of deaths occur at home - more than 80% of Americans would prefer to die at home.**



Understanding Hospice Care



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Hospice Care



- Provides support and care for those in the last phases of life-limiting illness.
- Recognizes dying as part of the normal process of living.
- Affirms life and neither hastens nor postpones death.
- Focuses on quality of life for individuals and their family caregivers.



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Core Aspects of Hospice Care

- Person- and family-centered
- Interdisciplinary team care
- Provides a range of services:
 - Interdisciplinary case management
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Durable medical equipment
 - Supplies
 - Volunteers
 - Grief support
 - Pain & symptom management



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Additional Services

Hospices offer additional services, including:

- Hospice – Routine Home care
- Inpatient Hospice Care (Hospice Room at MHS)
- Respite Care (Hospice Room at MHS or Village Manor)
- Continuous Care at Home
- Complementary therapies
- Caregiver training
- Community bereavement services



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Hospice Team Members



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Work of the Hospice Team

- Develops the plan of care
- Manages pain and symptoms
- Attends to the emotional, psychosocial and spiritual aspects of dying and caregiving
- Teaches the family how to provide care
- Advocates for the patient and family
- Provides bereavement care and counseling



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Where is Hospice Provided?

- Home – the patient's or loved one's home
- Nursing Facility
- Assisted Living Facility
- Hospital
- Hospice residence or unit
- Correctional setting, homeless shelter – wherever the person is located



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Who Pays?

- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Insurance and HMOs
- Private pay
- Sometimes a combination of these...
- Hospice donated funds



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Admission Criteria

To qualify for hospice care, these are the general requirements:

- Life-limiting illness, prognosis is 6 months or less if the disease takes normal course
- Live in the service area
- Consent to accept services
- Forgo other medical interventions for the terminal illness



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Understanding Palliative Care



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What is Palliative Care?



- Treatment that enhances comfort and improves the quality of an individual's life who is facing a serious illness but may not qualify for hospice care.
- The expected outcome is relief from distressing symptoms, the easing of pain, and/or enhancing the quality of life.



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Kinds of Care

Curative Care:

- Focuses on a cure to an illness and the prolonging of life.

Palliative Care:

- Focuses on comfort and quality of life that may be provided with other treatments.

Hospice Care:

- Focuses on comfort and quality of life when a cure is not possible with specialized care and services.



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Services that We Offer the Community



- Hospice Room at Memorial Health System for short respite or acute needs
- Hospice Room at Village Manor for residents of Village Manor or short respite stays
- Community Bereavement Support
- Home assessment prior to leaving hospital to assess for patient needs
- Hospice consult in the hospital or at home



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Resources in our Community



CARES Coalition of Dickinson County
is here to help connect you with the
resources in your area!

Resource Guide:

<https://www.caresresources.org/>



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Online Resources

- www.CaringInfo.org – with information and tools to help people facing serious illness, including help with advance care planning, caregiving, and grief.
- https://mhsks.org/home_health_hospice/ - for more information about your local Hospice of Dickinson County
- <https://www.nhpco.org/wp-content/uploads/NHPCO-Facts-Figures-2024.pdf> - 2024 NHPCO Facts & Figures



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QUESTIONS?



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THANK YOU!



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