

# How does hospice help my patients and my practice?

Coping with a terminal illness can be overwhelming—most people don't know where to turn for help.

Hospice and palliative care helps patients and families find comfort, love, and respect when they're needed most. Our goal is to help your patients and their families focus on what's most important – being together and living as fully as possible.

We help your patient and their family understand – hospice isn't about dying, it's about living with peace of mind and comfort while making the most of the time left.

Hospice is not only good for patients and families. With all of the pressure that healthcare costs put on our economy, hospice is a cost-effective way to keep patients out of the hospital and helps to avoid costly, unnecessary treatments.

Every patient receiving hospice has access to a registered nurse, medical director, social worker, hospice aide, chaplain, and volunteers – known as the interdisciplinary team.

Hospice care is available “on call” after the administrative office has closed, seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Hospices are required to have nurses available to respond to a call for help within minutes, if necessary. Some hospice programs have chaplains and social workers on call as well.

## Benefits of hospice and palliative care

- Expert medical care
- Pain and symptom management
- Patient and caregiver education
- Emotional and spiritual support
- Counseling and bereavement support
- 24-hour access to hospice team
- Covered by Medicare and most private insurance plans

**Contact your local provider today for more information.**

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