



Is It Time to Consider Hospice?

A Guide to Caring, Dignified Support for You and Your Family

UNDERSTANDING HOSPICE: CLEAR & COMPASSIONATE CARE

Many families wait longer than they need to because of common misconceptions. Knowing the facts helps you access comfort care when it matters most:

Focus on Quality of Life

Hospice is not "giving up"—it shifts focus from aggressive cures to personal comfort, pain relief, and dignity.

Support Begins Months Early

You do not have to wait for final days. Hospice provides ongoing medical, emotional, and practical care for months.

Care Comes to You

Services are delivered directly wherever the patient lives—at home, assisted living, or a nursing facility.

KEY SIGNS IT MAY BE TIME TO REACH OUT

If you notice one or more of these physical or emotional changes, a hospice evaluation can provide answers and relief:

- **Frequent Hospital Visits:** Multiple trips to the emergency room or hospital stays over a short period.
- **Increased Pain & Symptoms:** Difficulty managing pain, shortness of breath, nausea, or anxiety with current medications.
- **Recurrent Infections:** Frequent urinary tract infections (UTIs), pneumonia, or slow-healing skin wounds.
- **Caregiver Burnout:** When family members feel overwhelmed, exhausted, or physically drained by daily care tasks.
- **Unplanned Weight Loss:** Noticeable decrease in appetite, trouble swallowing, or visible weight loss.
- **Decline in Daily Activities:** Needing significantly more help with bathing, dressing, eating, or moving around.
- **Mental Status Changes:** Increased confusion, extreme tiredness, or sleeping for most of the day.

HOW TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP

1. **Anyone Can Call** — You do not need a doctor's referral to ask questions. Family members, friends, or patients can contact a hospice provider directly.
2. **Free, No-Obligation Consultations** — Requesting an informational visit is simply a conversation to explore options and eligibility; it does not commit you to starting care.
3. **100% Coverage** — Hospice care—including medical equipment, supplies, and related medications—is covered at 100% by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans.

Questions? We Are Here to Help.

Call us anytime at **757.496.1653** for a confidential, no-cost conversation
or visit www.wcathome.com