

Guide to Choosing Hospice Care



What is Hospice?

Hospice signifies the comprehensive approach to meeting the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of patients with a life limiting illness, with a special emphasis on controlling pain and symptoms.

At this critical time in a patient's journey, you need the full support of a trusted partner and medical team who are specialists in hospice care.

Whether prompted by a doctor's order, or an individual decision, you have the power of choice when transitioning to hospice care.

The guide below offers a series of questions to ask when selecting the hospice provider that will work best for you and your family.

Hospice is the philosophy and practice of compassionate, comfort and dignified care for those with life-limiting illnesses.

Questions for the Provider

- How established is this provider?
- Where does the provider perform hospice care (home, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals)?
- Are hospice nurses required to be certified in hospice care?
- What kind of support is available to the family/caregiver?
- How does the person's primary physician work together with hospice?
- How are services provided after hours?
- How and where does the hospice provide short-term inpatient care?
- Does it clearly explain the services it's providing and how much it will cost?
- Are services covered by insurance, Medicare and Medicaid? How does the billing process work?
- Will they help me modify my home to accommodate the patient? Will they coordinate all needed equipment and setup?
- How long can I receive hospice care?
- Can I speak with someone today?

Referrals Made Easy: 216-696-4357

For caregiver support and resources, visit www.VNAOhio.org

The Services

Every patient requires specialized care to focus on their well-being and needs for pain management and symptom control. Understand the range of services offered from your provider.

- Nursing care
- 24/7 support access
- Pain and symptom management
- Payment for hospice-approved medications and medical equipment
- Massage therapy
- Art therapy
- Music therapy
- Patient, caregiver and family education
- Counseling and social work services
- Personal care (bathing, grooming, dressing)
- Spiritual support
- Bereavement services for families (15 months after a loss)



The Team

Hospice care calls on a full team of compassionate and qualified professionals to ensure proper treatment, management and emotional support throughout the process. It's important to know the team members that you'll have access to with hospice care.

- Certified hospice nurses
- Medical director
- Social workers for in-home counseling
- Spiritual care coordinators
- Bereavement counselors
- Home care aides
- Massage therapist (certified in manual lymph drainage)
- Art therapist
- Music therapist
- Trained volunteers (patient visits, relief for caregivers, legal assistance)



Making the Right Call

Once treatment options have been exhausted, hospice is there to manage a patient's pain, symptoms and emotional needs – and all from the comfort of a preferred location. Patients and families can turn to trusted providers to take care of the finest details, and in turn, make every moment count.

Contact us

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216-696-4357
www.VNAOhio.org

As a not-for-profit organization,
VNA of Ohio values your support.
Thank you for supporting our mission
of caring for the community.

Connect with us



If you wish to volunteer with VNA of Ohio
Hospice, contact us at 216-902-7352.

About VNA of Ohio

Visiting Nurse Association of Ohio provides high-quality comprehensive home health and hospice care to promote health, independence, and dignity to those living in the communities we serve.

Founded in 1902, the organization has built a legacy for helping individuals and their families as they experience a health related situation. Today, we continue to provide expert services that will allow individuals to remain in the comfort of their homes.