

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HOME HOSPICE AND HOME HEALTH CARE

Hospice Care

Hospice is a philosophy of care.

Holistic in approach: nursing, physicians, social services, counseling, spiritual care, therapies, volunteers.

Skilled care not essential, but is available.

Homebound status not essential, with care given wherever the patient resides.

Inpatient respite care available.

Bereavement counseling provided.

Written bereavement care plan required.

Care continues if patient lives longer than six months.

Up to 24 hour nursing care at home available for acute pain and crisis management.

Patient/family is unit of care.

Patients are terminally ill.

Nurses specialize in pain and symptom management.

Purpose of program is comfort, not cure.

Heavy emphasis on emotional and spiritual support for client and family.

Home Health Care

Home care is a method of delivering care.

Nursing involved: other therapies available.

Must be skilled care.

Must be homebound.

No respite care available.

No bereavement counseling.

No care plan required as client discharged on death and family is not followed.

Discharged when skilled need no longer exists.

24 hour nursing care not available.

Care is client oriented.

Wide range of client problems including terminally ill.

Nurses use variety of skills.

Purpose of program is rehabilitation.

Emphasis on physical care.

