

# Which service meets my needs?

## HOME HEALTH

### Patient has:

- **Therapy needs**  
(e.g., rehabilitative therapy, post-surgical management, fall prevention, post-surgery rehab)
- **Skilled needs**  
(e.g., skilled nursing, medication management, disease management, home IV therapy, wound care management, or LVAD, TPN, PleurX catheter)
- **Primary care doctor willing to follow**
- **Physician referral to obtain covered care**

### Home health is:

- Provided alongside ongoing palliative care services (if the patient has them)
- Considered life-sustaining
- Covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance companies

## PALLIATIVE CARE

### Patient is:

- **Diagnosed with any advanced illness**
- **Undergoing curative treatment/therapies**
- **Wanting to discuss goals of care/advance directives**
- **Interested in staying active and comfortable**
- **Desiring added support to cope with advanced illness**

### Palliative care:

- Can include managing the symptoms of chronic advanced illness (e.g., pain, shortness of breath, anxiety/ depression, lack of appetite)
- Is considered life-sustaining
- Is covered by Medicare Part B, Medicaid, and most private insurance companies

## HOSPICE

### Patient is:

- **Diagnosed with a life-limiting illness**
- **No longer undergoing curative treatment/therapies**
- **Desiring 24/7 access to care team**

### Hospice is:

- A philosophy of care providing medical, emotional, and spiritual support
- Provided by an interdisciplinary team (doctor, nurse, spiritual care counselor, social worker, nurse aide, and/or trained volunteer)
- Focused on quality of life and symptom management, not curative treatment
- Covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance companies and managed care partners

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