

When should we consider Hospice?

This is a hard question to answer because each patient is an individual and they respond differently to their disease process and treatment. Patients who are referred early, reap the benefits of all that hospice has to offer. The following are some guidelines that have been developed by Medicare and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.



Family Hospice will evaluate a patient when two or more of the following are present:

- The patient is suffering from a life limiting illness such as end stage heart disease, end stage lung disease, cancer or dementia. This means the patient's health cannot be restored and their disease continues to progress, BUT their symptoms can be treated to improve the quality of the time they have remaining.
- The patient has additional problems called co-morbid conditions such as Diabetes, COPD, Ischemic Heart Disease and Parkinson's disease.
- The patient has been hospitalized or was treated in the emergency room for the same condition twice in the past 12 months.
- The patient's heart condition or lung condition requires the need for oxygen to become comfortable and their primary doctor has provided optimum treatment.
- The patient requires assistance with dressing, bathing, ambulation and other activities of daily living.



The Goal of hospice is to **improve the quality of each individual's life, relieve the suffering** brought on by their symptoms and to help them **live each day in comfort.**

Family Hospice will evaluate each patient using the admission guidelines established by Medicare and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. This evaluation is a tool to help patients and families determine what type of care they may qualify for and which they wish to choose.

MUSIC THERAPY

Music Therapists are certified allied health professionals, specially trained in hospice and palliative care. Our therapists assess patients to determine strategies for pain relief and emotional care. They provide personalized therapeutic sessions for individual hospice patients or whole family groups.



- MUSIC STIRS MEMORIES
- MUSIC AFFECTS MOOD
- MUSIC SOOTHES MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Any Family Hospice patient can qualify, free of charge.

(618) 277-1800 • info@familyhospice.org



GRIEF SUPPORT

Family Hospice has its own grief support service called The Heartlinks Grief Center. It's mission is to be the support center for all grieving people in our community. We began as a small program in 1997, supporting children who had a lost a loved one in hospice. We have grown into a full-service center that provides peer support, individual and family counseling and mobile programs to people of all ages in our service area.

(618) 277-1800 • support@myheartlinks.com

Family Hospice is a community based not-for-profit program providing exceptional care to our patients and their families. Family Hospice of Belleville is a Medicare Certified Hospice Program. Our vision at Family Hospice is to help the patient and their families facing serious illness find **the right care, at the right time and for the right reason.**



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