

Continuum of Care Comparison Chart

	HOME HEALTH	PALLIATIVE CARE	HOSPICE
Who Can Benefit	Patients who have experienced an illness, hospitalization or surgery and require recovery or healing; or who have a new healthcare diagnosis that results in a change in daily lifestyle.	Individuals with serious illness who may be receiving treatment and would benefit from symptom management.	Patients with a terminal illness who choose to discontinue curative treatment.
Who Pays	Medicare, many Medicaid and private insurances. Co-pays may be applicable.	Medicare (Part B) will cover part of the cost. Many Medicaid and private insurances also have coverage. Co-pays will apply in most instances.	The Medicare and Medicaid Hospice Benefits cover services related to the terminal prognosis.
Eligibility Requirements	Patient must have difficulty leaving the home and require intermittent skilled nursing or therapy services.	Homebound status is not required, nor must the patient have a terminal prognosis. Care will continue as long as the patient requires active and on-going symptom management.	A prognosis of 6 months or less given the illness runs its normal course as certified by a hospice physician and attending physician (if the patient has one).
Services That May Be Provided	Skilled nursing for pain, wounds and symptom management; Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Psychosocial support; Aides to assist with Activities of Daily Living, etc.	Advanced illness management administered by a Nurse Practitioner. Referral to community resources may be provided.	Skilled nursing for pain, wounds and symptom management; Psychosocial and Spiritual support; Aides to assist with Activities of Daily Living; Bereavement and pre-bereavement support. Medications, supplies and medical equipment related to the terminal illness may be covered.
Where Care is Delivered	Anywhere except in a skilled nursing facility or other inpatient facility.	Anywhere the patient calls home including a skilled nursing facility, assisted living or home.	Anywhere the patient calls home including a skilled or long-term care nursing facility.