

Choosing the right care

	Home Health Care	Palliative Care		Hospice Care
		Home Health Care	Home-Based Practice	
Goals of care	Curative or rehabilitative primarily, focused on medical needs.	Specialized medical care for people with serious illness. Goal is to reduce symptoms and improve quality of life for patient and family.	Specialty practice for people with serious illness. Goal is to reduce symptoms and improve quality of life for patient and family.	Holistic approach focused on comfort and enhanced quality of life for patient and family.
Criteria for Admission	Physician directed care provided to persons who are homebound, and require intermittent skilled services to promote or maintain health status.	Same eligibility criteria as traditional home health care. Designed for those with serious illness who may be receiving treatment.	Provided to persons with a chronic or serious illness who may be receiving treatment. Requires referral from primary care provider or specialty provider.	Provided to persons with a life expectancy measured in months rather than years. Not required to be homebound.
Who provides the care?	A team of home care professionals including nurses, therapists, social workers, dietitians, and home health aides in collaboration with primary care physician.	A specially trained team of palliative care experts including nurses, therapists, social workers, dietitians, and home health aides together with primary care physician.	Nurse practitioner and trained team of palliative care experts including social workers and chaplain.	A specially trained team of hospice care experts including the primary physician, hospice medical director, nurses, social workers, hospice aides, spiritual counselors, dietitians, therapists, and volunteers.
What is provided?	Maintain or restore level of function or health by • Treating illness or injury • Teaching self-management of chronic illness • Promoting home safety and independence	Specialty Home Health services with a focus on • Pain and symptom management • Emotional and spiritual support • Person-centered care guided by individual values and preferences	Consultative and collaborative specialty provider visits for • Pain and symptom management • Advance care planning • Coordination of care • Emotional and spiritual support • Resource for support programs in the community	Comprehensive program providing all care and services related to the palliation of the terminal illness. • Pain and symptom management • Emotional and spiritual support • Assistance with personal care • Durable Medical Equipment • Supplies and medications related to the hospice care at home • Short-term inpatient care • Bereavement support • Respite care is also covered as needed
Who pays for care?	Medicare, Medicaid, and most Insurance companies.	Medicare, Medicaid, and most Insurance companies.	Medicare, Medicaid, and most Insurance companies under specialty coverage.	Medicare, Medicaid, and most Insurance companies.