



Palliative Care vs Hospice Care, what is the difference?

Palliative Care is for really sick people that are not terminal. Hospice is for terminal patients who are actively dying or expected to die within 6 months.

Who provides Palliative Care?

There are 3 Home Health Agencies in the Rochester Area.

- 1. Home Care of Rochester**
- 2. Rochester Regional Health (formerly Lifetime Care)**
- 3. University of Rochester**

Who provides Hospice Care?

There are 2 Home Health Agencies in the Rochester Area.

- 1. Rochester Regional Health (formerly Lifetime Care)**
- 2. University of Rochester**

How do I get enrolled in Palliative Care or Hospice Care?

Dr. Postigo will request a Home Health evaluation and will send them a copy of your medical records. The Home Health Agency will evaluate the patient at home and if they think you qualify you will be admitted to their service.

Sometimes the time between the request and their evaluation can be a few days, Dr. Postigo does not have any control over this.

How Palliative Care works?

Covered by your insurance if with an advanced, life-threatening illness, and expected to live longer than 6 months. The Home Health Agency will evaluate you at home and if you qualify, they will provide medical services at home, for a specific period of time. They will decide how long this period will be.

Dr. Postigo will supervise your care but the Home Health and not Dr. Postigo will decide when is time to finish their services.

Patients can continue all their usual medical treatments, can have routine blood work, can follow their specialists and be admitted to the hospital for medical treatment if needed.



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Palliative Care is like a pre-hospice and if needed can be transitioned to Hospice Care. It can provide aides at home; the supervising nurse will decide how many hours a day you can get, not Dr. Postigo.

How Hospice Care works?

Covered by your insurance. The Home Health Agency will evaluate you and if you qualify, they will provide Hospice Care. It can be done at home, in a Hospice Home or in a Nursing Home. After admitted to Hospice Care, Dr. Postigo will transfer care to the Hospice Medical team and he will no longer be your doctor. If you have a Private Insurance sometimes this is terminated and Medicare will take over.

For staying at home, you will need to have a person willing to provide medicines and care for you at home, and if needed willing to live with you in your house as you approach the final stages of your illness.

Hospice Care is for terminal patients with a prognosis of 6 months or less. It is for patients who have decided to stop curative treatments and focus on comfort care and they prefer not to go back to the hospital.

It provides compassionate care for people in the last phases of an incurable disease so that they may live their last days as comfortably as possible. When enrolled in Hospice Care there are no routine labs, no follow up with specialists, no physical therapy, no hospital admissions for treatment unless is to keep patient comfortable.

Hospice can provide aides at home; the supervising nurse will decide how many hours a day you can get. Aides are not authorized to give medicines. Hospice pays for medicines and medical equipment like a hospital bed and Oxygen.