

SUBURBAN HOSPICE

MYTHS & FACTS

MYTH	FACT
Enrolling in hospice means giving up	By enrolling in hospice services, you are choosing to focus on quality-of-life through patient-centered care.
Hospice care is only when you have a few days to live	Hospice care can be provided when a cure is no longer possible, and it's believed a patient has six months or less to live.
Hospice patients must have a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) status	Hospice patients do not have to have a DNR in place to be admitted to hospice care
If it is time for hospice my doctor will talk to me about it	Many doctors wait for a patient to bring up hospice, leading to a late enrollment. Often families and patients wish they would have known about hospice sooner. Anyone can inquire about hospice
Hospice provides nursing care in the home 24 hours a day	The hospice team makes regular visits to the patient wherever the patient resides, whether in the home or care facility. A hospice nurse visits when needed and is available by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Hospice care covers all costs of a nursing home	Room and board in a nursing home is not covered by hospice. This will either be paid privately or covered by Medicaid or long term care policies if applicable.
Hospice will make me get a hospital bed where I will remain the rest of my life	Hospice will offer medical equipment, but you can choose what you want. We encourage patients to maintain their current level of function as long as possible and do not require them to be homebound.
Hospice ends at the time of the patient's passing.	Bereavement and grief services are offered for family members and caregivers for 13 months after the patient's passing and sometimes longer.
Hospice will stop all of my current medications and immediately start me on morphine.	The hospice team will give recommendations on medications that are no longer necessary, but will leave the decision to you or your family. Hospice has expertise in managing symptoms with the appropriate medications at the appropriate level to make the patient comfortable yet alert.

