



HOSPICE OF MARION COUNTY – UNDERSTANDING LEVELS OF CARE

ROUTINE HOME CARE is the basic level of care under the hospice benefit and is provided at the patient's place of residence (home, Assisted Living Facility or Nursing Home). It includes nursing and physician services, medical social services, certified nursing aide services, counseling services (pastoral, spiritual, bereavement, dietary, and others as necessary), medications, medical equipment, medical supplies and lab/diagnostic studies that are related to the terminal prognosis.

GENERAL INPATIENT CARE (GIP) is a higher level of care ordered by a physician when pain or other symptoms cannot be relieved at the patient's place of residence. It consists of intensive around-the-clock medical, nursing and psychosocial care, similar to an acute hospital or ICU stay and is intended to be short-term with the goal of managing symptoms so the patient can return to their previous residence with Hospice care. At Hospice of Marion County, this level of care is typically provided at one of our Inpatient units (Hospice Houses). While receiving GIP care, all charges, including room and board charges, are covered by Medicare, Medicaid and many private health insurance plans. When the Hospice physician determines that symptoms are managed, GIP care will be discontinued and the level of care will be changed to Routine Care. This means that the patient's care can be managed at their previous residence or in another care setting with Hospice support.

- If the patient remains in the Inpatient unit after changing to Routine Care, Medicare, Medicaid and supplemental insurance plans will no longer cover Room & Board charges.
- Patient responsibility for Room and Board charges of \$180/day will start the day after Routine Care begins. If finances are of concern, our Finance Department is able to work with patients and their families by offering payment options.

CRISIS CARE is a higher level of care ordered by a physician and provided when the patient demonstrates a need for skilled interventions for pain and symptom management in their place of residence. Crisis Care is for a limited time and must meet certain criteria set by Medicare. Crisis Care staff will care for the patient and provide teaching to the patient's family until the symptoms are under control. Once symptoms are managed, the level of care will be changed to Routine Care.

RESPITE CARE is short-term, temporary care, up to five days as needed, provided at a contracted, skilled nursing home to allow caregivers to rest or to get away for a short period of time. If the respite stay exceeds five days, the patient or representative will be financially responsible for any additional respite days. Once the respite period ends, the patient will be discharged back home.

Thank you for choosing Hospice of Marion County. We are committed to providing you with the BEST Hospice care so that you feel better and live better!
If you have any other questions, just call (352) 873-7400.

