

# The Hospice Timeline



The hospice care journey from request to continuing care can often be confusing. Our hospice timeline is your guide to a typical path for patients and their loved ones.



## 1. Referral

Hospice starts when a patient and their doctor agree to a request or 'referral' for care when curative treatment is no longer an option or one the patient wishes to pursue. The patient must also have a terminal illness with a prognosis of six months or less. We will contact the patient and/or family members to setup an informational meeting to talk about their concerns and goals.

+ *Referral and admission typically occurs within 24-48 hours.*



## 2. Admission

We arrange for a nurse visit on the day of admission. We assess the patient's individual needs to include medical equipment, supplies and medications and develop an individualized plan of care. The patient and their doctor are always part of key decisions.





### 3. Continuing Care

- + Available 24/7, holidays and weekends
- + Physician, nursing, nursing assistant, social work and chaplain support
- + Caregiver education and support
- + Volunteers
- + Expert pain and symptom management
- + Medical equipment related to diagnosis
- + Focus on quality of life

+ *Patients and family can end hospice and return to curative care at any time.*



### 4. Final Days

We provide comforting support at the end of life. We can help loved ones with appropriate notifications and final arrangements.

+ *13 months + of grief support*



### 5. Grief Support

Loved ones will receive bereavement care, grief support resources, education and follow-up for at least 13 months.

