



*Because the end of life is part of living*

# Long-Term Care Facilities and Hosparus

These guidelines will help identify how and when residents can benefit from both Long-Term Care (LTC) services and hospice services. They are general guidelines only. If you think a resident could benefit from our services, please call.

## When should I call to make a Hosparus referral?

- When a resident is expected to survive six months or less if the disease follows its normal course
- When curative treatment is no longer an option or has been declined by a resident/family
- A resident's primary want is for comfort care and symptom management
- When a resident has had a significant change in condition.

## How do residents and families benefit from choosing Hosparus?

- Hosparus provides end-of-life education.
- Hosparus provides counseling for residents and families.
- Hosparus provides spiritual and caregiver support services (e.g., chaplain).
- Hosparus pays for medications and equipment related to hospice diagnosis that are included in the hospice plan of care.
- Hosparus provides bereavement counseling to families for 13 months after the death.

## Will Medicare pay for skilled care and hospice at the same time?

### *Yes, provided that:*

- Documentation in both the LTC and hospice medical records clearly shows that the terminal diagnosis is not related to the illness/injury for which skilled care is appropriate.
- Example: A woman in hospice care for end-stage heart disease trips and breaks her hip. Her physician orders physical therapy for the hip fracture that is unrelated to the hospice terminal diagnosis. Under these conditions, Medicare would pay for both hospice and skilled services at the same time.

## What happens when Hosparus patients can no longer live at home?

- The Hosparus social worker will help the resident and family explore options for long-term care placement.

## What services does Hosparus offer in the nursing facilities?

- Counseling
- Education about what to expect during the dying process
- Help for residents/families so that they understand their options for available medications for pain and symptom control
- Enhanced quality end-of-life care for residents and their families through care coordination among Hosparus and facility staff.

*A non-profit hospice organization • [www.hosparus.org](http://www.hosparus.org)*

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# HOSPARUS

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**1-800-264-0521**

- Palliative Care
- Home, Nursing Home Care
- Inpatient Services
- Physical, Emotional  
& Spiritual Support
- Bereavement Counseling

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