

## UNDERSTANDING HOSPICE CARE

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As idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) progresses, it's important to understand your care options. Hospice care is often introduced at the end of life for those with a prognosis of 6 months or less. Admission into hospice requires referral and certification by a medical professional. The hospice team provides ongoing symptom management and offers emotional and spiritual support, promoting peace and comfort. This support is tailored to each patient's unique needs and wishes.

Here's what you can expect from hospice care:

## Hospice Care

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**Goal:** To help people who are facing the end of life have peace, comfort, and dignity

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**Who is it for:** Typically reserved for people who have 6 months or less to live. It is focused on patient and family

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**Who is involved:** Medical professionals, nurses, spiritual advisors, and social workers

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**Where it is given:** Home care, inpatient hospice, long-term care facilities, and designated hospital beds

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**What it provides:** Intensified palliative care interventions used to control pain and other symptoms to maintain and promote comfort

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**Coverage:** Medicare offers hospice care as a key benefit for people with potentially life-limiting illnesses such as IPF. State Medicaid programs and private health insurance plans include hospice benefits, depending on the plan

If you're interested in learning more about hospice care, be sure to talk with your healthcare team.