

## Eligibility for Hospice Services

Medicare guidelines allow for coverage of all hospice care directly associated with end-of-life illness. In addition, ancillary services that may be covered under the hospice benefit include medical supplies and equipment; homemaker services (including light errands and housekeeping); music therapy; and grief counseling for the immediate family and significant others.

The level of care is determined through a patient assessment. At every level, patients have access to a hospice nurse 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at (619) 667-1900.

Reimbursement for hospice services is usually covered by one of the following: Medicare, Medi-Cal, private insurance or charity care. Sharp HospiceCare accepts patients based on their health needs, not on their ability to pay.



*"It's only when we truly know and understand that we have a limited time on earth — and that we have no way of knowing when our time is up, we will then begin to live each day to the fullest, as if it was the only one we had."*

*– Elisabeth Kübler-Ross*

Sharp HospiceCare focuses on palliative, or relief measures, rather than curative treatment for those facing the end-stages of a serious illness. We help patients achieve renewed quality of life through pain relief, emotional and spiritual support, daily comfort, and closure with loved ones.

Sharp HospiceCare is part of Sharp HealthCare, a not-for-profit organization serving San Diego County since 1946.

Bringing Comfort to Each Day

*bringing comfort to each day*

(619) 667-1900 or toll-free (800) 681-9188  
www.sharp.com/hospice  
8881 Fletcher Parkway, Suite 336  
La Mesa, CA 91942

**SHARP**  
San Diego's Health Care Leader  
1-800-82-SHARP www.sharp.com



*~ A Health Care Organization Designed Not For Profit, But For People ~*

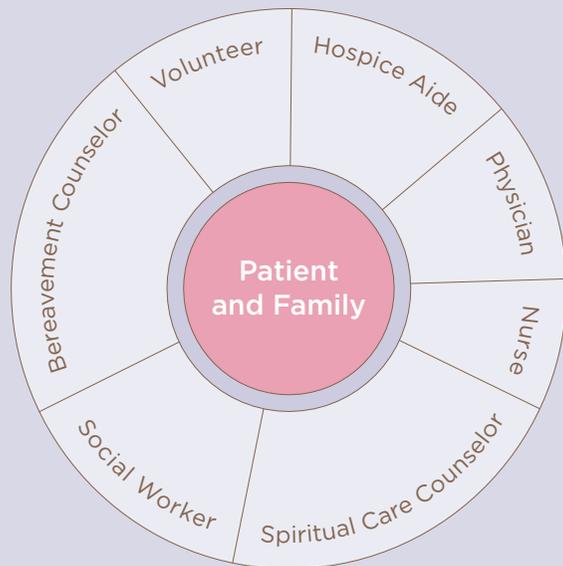
Sharp HospiceCare is accredited by the Joint Commission and affiliated with the California Hospice and Palliative Care Association (CHAPCA) and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). Homes for Hospice are licensed by the California Department of Health Services.



## A New Source of Hope

Hospice care isn't about dying; it's about living the last chapter of your life with peace, acceptance and dignity. No matter where your journey takes you, the Sharp HospiceCare team will be there, offering comfort and support every step of the way.

Our interdisciplinary team of compassionate caregivers includes the medical director, physicians, case manager/registered nurses, social workers, hospice aides, spiritual care counselors, bereavement counselors, integrative therapy practitioners and volunteers.



As specialists in the area of end-of-life care, we understand the unique physical and emotional challenges you and your loved ones face when choosing hospice. Every member of our team is dedicated to easing your transition and supporting your loved ones during and after your stay.

**Choosing hospice doesn't mean giving up hope; it's about finding new hope through pain relief, daily comfort and closure with loved ones and personal affairs.**

Care can be provided in your own home, the hospital, a skilled nursing facility or one of our unique hospice homes in San Diego County. Our staff provides patients with a variety of services:

- Pain control and symptom management
- Emotional and spiritual care
- Personal care and comfort
- Resources and education
- Respite care
- Companionship
- Bereavement services

## Hospice Homes — Unique Living Environments

For patients requiring a higher level of care not available at their own residence, Sharp HospiceCare operates homes specially designed to provide end-of-life care and support in a quaint, welcoming setting.



Our hospice homes are located in established residential neighborhoods throughout San Diego County, and offer a serene environment for residents and families to gather and enjoy their time together. Each home is staffed 24 hours a day by licensed nurses and features private and semi-private patient rooms, spacious living rooms, family rooms, dining rooms and outdoor gardens.

## Comprehensive Bereavement Support

Feelings of grief and loss are natural reactions when a loved one passes. Family and friends need a safe and supportive environment in which they can share their experiences, gain a better understanding of the grieving process, and learn how to help themselves move from feelings of despair to hope.

The bereavement counselors at Sharp HospiceCare provide comprehensive support services for children, adults and families, including:

- Individual and family counseling
- In-home bereavement visits
- Routine telephone contact
- Support groups and activities
- Monthly newsletter mailings
- Community education and referral

## Our Commitment to You

At Sharp HospiceCare we are committed to delivering compassionate care to you and your family.

Our specially trained staff will help guide you through the hospice journey. It's all part of the extraordinary quality of care we call The Sharp Experience. To learn more, call us at **(619) 667-1900**, or toll free at **(800) 681-9188** or visit **[www.sharp.com/hospice](http://www.sharp.com/hospice)**.