

# HOSPICE CARE

# Myths & Facts



## MYTH

Hospice care is only for cancer patients.

## FACT

Anyone who has been diagnosed with a life limiting illness and a life expectancy of six months or less can be referred for hospice care.



## MYTH

Hospice care is only for the last two weeks of life.

## FACT

Hospice care is available to all patients with a life expectancy of six months or less.



## MYTH

Hospice care means giving up my doctors and routine care.

## FACT

Your primary care physician continues to be involved in your care, and works together with the Hosparus Health care team to develop a plan of care based on your wishes and goals.



## MYTH

Using hospice care means giving up.

## FACT

Hospice is a type of medical care that focuses on improving the quality of life for someone whose illness, disease or condition is unlikely to be cured.



## MYTH

Hospice care is expensive.

## FACT

Medicare, Medicaid, and many insurance plans cover 100% of charges for hospice services.



## MYTH

Hospice care hastens death.

## FACT

Hospice care neither prolongs life nor hastens death. Studies show that patients who receive hospice care actually live longer than those who don't use hospice care.



## MYTH

Hospice means you have to stop all prior medications.

## FACT

Hospice does not require anyone to stop medications. All medications are reviewed to ensure they are still of benefit to you and are NOT harmful in this stage of life.



## MYTH

Only a physician can refer a patient for hospice care.

## FACT

Anyone - patients, loved ones or others involved in providing care - can make the first contact with Hosparus Health.