

Checklist for Evaluating Hospice Palliative Care Programs

You can complete the highlighted fields on this form online and then print the form for easy reference. Only text that is visible on the form is printed; scrolled text will not print. Any text you enter into these fields will be cleared when you close the form; you cannot save it.

Once you make the decision to seek hospice palliative care, you may want to use a checklist to find out about the services offered by your local program. Add to it as you think of items that are important to you, and cross off those items that are not useful.

You will want a copy of the checklist for each program that you plan to consider. Have the list in front of you as you ask questions of the hospice palliative care program staff, and make notes next to each item on your list.

Name of hospice palliative care program:	
Address:	
Phone number:	
Where are services provided?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> In your home <input type="checkbox"/> In a special inpatient hospice unit <input type="checkbox"/> In a facility (hospital or nursing home) where you are already a patient
What services are provided? (Check all that apply.)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> One or more doctors who can make home, hospital, or nursing home visits <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual or religious counselling or advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory, occupational, and physiotherapists <input type="checkbox"/> Social workers <input type="checkbox"/> Home health aides <input type="checkbox"/> Shopping and errands <input type="checkbox"/> Meal preparation and nutritional counselling <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning and household chores <input type="checkbox"/> Respite services if your primary caregiver becomes ill or needs a break <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription medicines, and medical supplies and equipment <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreters or other special services related to your culture, ethnicity, or lifestyle
What is the plan of care?	
Does the hospice palliative care program develop a care plan with you and your family?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

The care plan should include specific duties, who will perform them and how often, and the name and phone number of the supervisor. A good program will develop a care plan by providing a health professional (not a clerk or administrative assistant) who will:

- Talk with you and your family in your home (not just over the telephone)
- Talk with your doctor or other health professionals.
- Write down the care plan and give copies to everyone who will be involved in your care.

Who provides care? (Check all that apply.)

- Family members
- Hospice palliative care staff only
- Your doctor

References

Get the names of doctors who refer patients to this program.

Identify families who have used this program. If possible, talk with the families. Ask about their experience and whether they would recommend the program to others.

After your visit

Does this program provide the services you want?	Yes	No
Is this program covered by your provincial health plan?	Yes	No