

# HOSPICE CARE FOR PATIENTS WITH COPD AND OTHER FORMS OF LUNG DISEASE

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## When is the right time to ask about hospice?

People with lung disease who are contemplating hospice care usually have one major concern: "What will happen if I lose my ability to breathe? Before, the hospital was always my first choice. When I need help, who am I going to call? An individual respiratory plan outlining specific interventions for respiratory distress will be developed by Melodia care team. This strategy will allow patients to regain control of their symptoms at home. Having a "pre-emergency" plan gives patients and their loved ones a greater sense of control and security.

- When you're in your final six months of life, hospice is there to assist you. Determine eligibility by consulting with your doctor and following their clinical guidelines. In any case, hospice patients must be physically and psychologically prepared. The following patients are helped by Melodia care.
- You've been to the hospital several times a year because of an infection or a respiratory failure.

- Have reached a stage where they spend the majority of their time at home.
- After being hospitalized more than once every three months, you no longer want to go back.

Intubation is no longer desired. Melodia care advises patients and their families on how to avoid unnecessary hospitalization and intubation by helping them set goals and finding alternative ways to manage their symptoms.

## Types of lung disease

Non-cancerous respiratory illnesses like chronic bronchitis and emphysema are grouped under the term chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Other non-cancerous lung diseases can have life-threatening consequences, such as:

- Chronic asthma
- Bronchiectasis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Cystic fibrosis
- End-stage tuberculosis



## Hospice for COPD and other forms of lung disease

Lung disease symptoms such as dyspnea (shortness of breath) and anxiety can be debilitating. A combination of clinical therapies and the individualized, round-the-clock hospice care can be used to treat this condition. Melodia's care includes the following services as well:

- An interdisciplinary team conducts a thorough evaluation of the results.
- Prepare a pre-emergency strategy that takes into account the needs and objectives of the patient.
- Medical and non-medical approaches to treating respiratory distress
- After the onset of respiratory distress, a 24-hour response is required.

Because all hospice organizations receive the same reimbursement, there is no price competition. The level of service and range of options available at each hospice are what set them apart.

Melodia care do a lot more than just keep an eye on the patient's health. More options and resources are available to those with terminal illnesses and their families as a

result of our efforts. Only a hospice can put into action a care strategy that includes the following components:

- The provision of emotional and spiritual support.
- medicines, medical supplies and growth of technology for the diagnosis.
- Instruction so that family members can help with patient care.
- Assistance with grieving for those who have lost loved ones.

### Levels of hospice care

Melodia care is proud to be a pioneer in the field of end-of life care, and to provide unmatched service at each of the four hospice levels:

#### Routine Home Care—

available no matter where the patient calls home (a house, a nursing home, an assisted living facility).

#### Intensive Comfort Care (continuous care)—

if medically necessary, home health care management for up to 24 hours a day

#### Inpatient Care—

when a patient's medical needs are too complex to be managed at home.

**Respite Care**—provides caregivers with "respite" by allowing a brief inpatient stay for the patient.

### Who pays for Melodia Care services?

Hospice services provided by are covered by Medicare, Medicaid/Medi-Cal, private insurance, and other funding sources.

Melodia Care Healthcare may be able to assist you in your search. Visit our website at [melodiacare.com](http://melodiacare.com) or contact us by phone at 1-888 635-6347.

### Your Melodia care team

A highly skilled interdisciplinary team coordinates the care of end-stage cancer patients because they have a wide range of needs.

- **Physician:** In addition to the primary care physician, the patient's pain and symptoms are managed by this physician.
- **Registered nurse:** A licensed practical or vocational nurse with expertise in the assessment and management of pain.
- **Social worker:** A social worker who offers emotional support as well as

assistance with money management and budgeting issues.

- **Hospice aide:** Personal care and hygiene assistance, light housekeeping, light laundry, and shopping as needed are all responsibilities of a hospice aide.
- **Chaplain:** A chaplain who works with the patient's existing clergy to provide spiritual support for the patient.
- **Community volunteer:** Melodia care-trained community volunteer offers time and companionship as a service to the community.
- **Bereavement specialist:** An expert in bereavement care and support who helps with memorial services as well as caring for departed loved ones.





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