


# Hospice Care Is a Type of Palliative Care

## What do palliative care and hospice care have in common?

- Both are comfort care.
- The objective of both is to reduce stress and offer complex symptom relief related to advanced illness.
- Both provide physical and psychosocial relief.
- Care is delivered wherever the patient calls home.

Palliative care is for those seeking curative treatment concurrently. Hospice care is for those with a prognosis of six months or less who are not seeking curative treatment or are no longer responding to it.

	 VITAS (Hospice)	Palliative Care
Eligibility Requirements	Prognosis required: ≤ 6 months if the illness runs its usual course	Prognosis varies by program, usually life-defining illness
	Skilled need not required	Skilled need not required
Plan of Care	Quality of life and defined goals	Quality of life and defined goals
Length of Care	Unlimited	Varies
Homebound	Not required	Not required
Addresses High-Acuity Disease-Specific Needs	✓	X
Medications Included	✓	X
Home Equipment Included	✓	X
After-Hours Staff Availability	✓	X
RT/PT/OT/Speech	✓	X
Nurse Visit Frequency	Unlimited	Varies
Palliative Care Physician Support	✓	Varies
Levels of Care	4	1
Bereavement Support	✓	X

VITAS is here for your hospice care needs. Call 800.93.VITAS.

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