

Comparing Your Skilled Care Options

You may need skilled care that continues after you leave the hospital. This factsheet tells about four different types of care. The information will help you make the best decisions about your care.

What is skilled care?

You may need help at home from nurses or therapists. This help can include any of these things:

- Wound care
- Infusions
- Tube feedings
- Physical therapy
- Speech and swallowing therapy

Before you leave the hospital, your care team will set up the home care you need. Your case manager will talk with you about the care that meets your needs best.

Types of skilled care

There are four main types of skilled care for Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) patients. The main differences are the focus and goals of the care.

Home health. Nurses or therapists make scheduled visits to your home. The nurses focus on treatment and care. The therapists help you regain strength and skills. The goals are recovery and restored independence.

Palliative home health. Nurses come to your home to help you with pain and other problems related to your cancer. Instead of full recovery, the focus is on your quality of life and keeping your health from getting worse. You can still get treatment for your cancer along with this type of care.

Hospice care. You can get hospice care at home with visits from nurses and other caregivers. You may also be able to get this type of care in a care facility. Hospice care is for patients who have decided to stop treatments for their cancer and may be nearing the end of life. It provides support for you and your loved ones. The goal is to keep you comfortable and your quality of life as high as possible. The focus is comfort on all levels—physical, emotional, social, and spiritual.

Huntsman at Home™. This home health service is for HCI patients who live within 20 miles of our hospital. It is for patients who need extra support at home. Your HCI doctor must refer you to this service. Huntsman at Home providers visit you at home. The focus of their care is to help you recover from your illness and to watch for problems from your cancer or treatment. They can also help with hospice care to keep you comfortable at home if you decide to stop treatment.

Comparing the options

The table on page 2 lets you compare these skilled care options side by side.

continued on page 2

Your case manager _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Side-by-Side Comparison of Skilled Nursing Types

	Home Health	Palliative Home Health	Hospice Care	Huntsman at Home
Focus of Care	Recovery Regain independence	Comfort Quality of life	Comfort Quality of life Support for patient and loved ones at end of life	Recovery Symptom management Quality of life Care at end of life
Medical Team	Doctor or nurse practitioner Nurse Nursing aide Physical therapist, if needed Occupational therapist, if needed Speech and swallowing therapist, if needed	Doctor or nurse practitioner Nurse Nursing aide Physical therapist, if needed Occupational therapist, if needed Speech and swallowing therapist, if needed	Doctors Nurse practitioners Nurses Nurses aides Pharmacists Social workers Chaplains Therapists Nutritionists	Doctors Nurse practitioners Nurses Nurses aides Pharmacists Social workers Chaplains Therapists Nutritionists
Services Included	Short and focused visits for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound care • IV therapy • Nutrition therapy • Injections • Physical therapy 	Short and focused visits for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound care • IV therapy • Nutrition therapy • Injections • Physical therapy 	Home or facility visits for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicines for comfort, pain • Physical condition checks • Help with daily activities such as bathing • Support such as counseling and spiritual care for patient and loved ones 	Home visits as needed for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound care • IV therapy • Other medicines • Nutrition therapy • Checking blood labs • Physical therapy Can shift to hospice care if needed
Services Not Included	No housekeeping tasks	No housekeeping tasks	No medicines to treat your cancer May not be included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial nutrition • Antibiotics • Other life-prolonging treatment For more info, ask your care team	No housekeeping tasks Not available to patients in a care facility
Requirements	Available by appointment only Must be housebound with medical issues that make you unable to leave home Must need skilled nursing care	Available by appointment only Must be housebound with medical issues that make you unable to leave home Must need skilled nursing care Availability varies; please ask your case manager	No longer seeking disease treatment Estimated life expectancy less than 6 months Do not need to be housebound	Do not need to be housebound Must live within 20 miles of Huntsman Cancer Institute HCI doctor must refer you
Insurance Coverage	Covered by Medicare Covered by commercial insurance depending on plan	Covered by Medicare Covered by commercial insurance depending on plan	Covered by Medicaid and Medicare Covered by commercial insurance depending on plan	Covered by Medicare Covered by commercial insurance depending on plan