



500 Hospital Drive Suite B  
 Wetumpka, AL 36092  
 334-514-3038 • Fax: 833-468-0066

*Bridging the Gap with Specialty Care Services*

## PALLIATIVE vs. HOSPICE

Do you know the difference?

PALLIATIVE		HOSPICE
Yes	Is a physician's order required?	Yes
Yes	Should the patients be in the advanced stages of an illness?	Yes
Yes	Do patients who have a terminal illness automatically qualify?	No, an assessment must be done
Yes	Can a patient continue with their curative treatment?	No
n/a	What is the patient's prognosis/life expectancy?	Six months or less
Medicare Part B, & most insurance	Who pays for it?	Medicare Part A, Medicaid and most insurance
No	Is durable medical equipment included?	Yes
No	Are medications included?	Yes, if related to the hospice diagnosis
Either	Does a patient receive care in their home or at a facility?	Either
No	Is it a sitter service?	No
Yes	Can a sitter service also provide service separately?	Yes
Yes	Can home health also service the patient at the same time?	No
1-2 times per month by a Nurse Practitioner	How often is a patient seen?	1-2 times per week by an RN
No	Will patients be seen by a CNA as well?	Yes, 3-5 times per week
Yes, but optional to patient	Will a patient be seen by a chaplain and social worker?	Yes, but optional to patient
No	Are volunteers a part of the program?	Yes
Patient and Family	Does the program benefit only the patient or the family as well?	Patient and Family
No	Is respite care included?	Yes
Yes	Once care begins, can a patient change service type?	Yes