

FOUR LEVELS OF CARE for HOSPICE

1) Routine Home Care

- Provided within the patient's residence which includes home, nursing home, community-based residential facility (CBRF) or residential care apartment complex (RCAC) and Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng Residence
- Provided to all patients regardless of reimbursement source
- No time limit as long as patient continues to meet hospice admission criteria

2) General Inpatient Care (formerly known as acute care)

- Brief inpatient care to manage acute or chronic symptom that cannot be managed in other settings
- May be required for procedures necessary for pain or symptom control
- May be provided in contracted hospital and in Unity's Jack and Engrid Meng Residence
- For Unity to be the guarantor, the patient must have a general inpatient care benefit included in the hospice benefit. Medicare and Medicaid have this benefit. Insurance patients most often are hospitalized using his/her major medical insurance benefit; the insurance company may have requirements for pre-certification
- Medicare hospice benefit has a limit of 20 % of total hospice days of care that can be provided at an inpatient level of care (includes both general inpatient care and respite care)

3) Respite Care

- To provide a rest period or break for the caregiver
- Limited to three to five day stay per occurrence
- No limit on the frequency respite care is used but it is expected that it would be used only occasionally
- Available to patient and family based upon reimbursement source

4) Continuous Care

- Provided at the patient's residence during a short-term, temporary period of crisis
- Must be a skilled nursing need
- Requires a minimum of eight hours of care during a 24 hour day. At least 50% of time must be provided by RN or LPN; the other 50 % of the hours may be provided by a CNA, homemaker or companion sitter that is an employee. Social worker and chaplain visits are not included in totaling continuous care hours
- All nursing and CNA hours need to be included and CNA hours cannot exceed nursing hours
- Provided to all patients regardless of reimbursement source (payment varies according to reimbursement source)