

Continuous Care at The Denver Hospice



What is Continuous Care?

- Continuous Care is an increased service intensity for a limited time period to manage uncontrolled symptoms such as pain, trouble breathing or agitation.
- This level of care is available from The Denver Hospice for patients in private homes, assisted living residences, nursing facilities and independent living communities. It is not available to hospitalized patients.
- Our goal is to provide continuous care by a member of The Denver Hospice team (CNA, LPD or RN) until an exacerbated symptom is managed and the patient can stay in their residence.
- Your primary hospice team will remain assigned to your facility and continue to be involved in care. You may encounter several different staff members in your facility while you are receiving this service.
- Our staff at The Denver Hospice will collaborate with your staff to keep you aware of the resident's condition and involved in, changes to the Plan of Care. Our staff will provide the resident, the family, and your staff training on symptom management.
- Nurses may obtain new orders, administer medications and can coordinate with your staff on the preferred protocol for medication administration, documentation, narcotic counts and disposal.
- Certified Nursing Assistants are not permitted to give medications. If a CNA is assigned, medication administration will remain the responsibility of the facility. This will be clearly communicated in the Plan of Care.
- An RN will re-evaluate the resident's condition every 24 hours to determine whether the resident continues to qualify for Continuous Care, renew this level of care for an additional 24 hours or discontinue when no longer appropriate.
- Continuous Care is not to be used for respite purposes or to replace or supplement routine caregiving. After the uncontrolled symptom has been brought under control, the resident will return to a routine level of care.

Example Indications for Continuous Care

- Increased pain requiring frequent assessment, administration, monitoring, and dose titration of short-acting medications until pain is controlled on long-acting medications.
- Increased nausea, requiring initiation of a subcutaneous medication pump.
- A resident is actively dying with uncontrolled trouble breathing and agitation.

For more information, please contact your friendly liaison from The Denver Hospice.

As the leading provider of life-enhancing hospice and palliative care,
we help patients and their families get more from life.

For information
or referrals, call
303-398-6200

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