



Superior HOSPICE

Elevating Lives. Enriching Journeys.

COMMON HOSPICE Myths & Misconceptions

Hospice care is often misunderstood, leading to hesitation or uncertainty about when to seek for support. These misconceptions can prevent patients and their loved ones from accessing the comfort, dignity, and assistance they deserve. By entering on to hospice earlier, the patient and those involved are able to benefit more from its cares and be more present during the moments that matter most.

1 Once you enter Hospice Care, you can never go back.

Truth: Hospice care is not about giving up—it's about ensuring comfort, dignity, and support for individuals with life-limiting illnesses when a cure is no longer likely. However, a patient may leave hospice at any time if their medical condition improves or they wish to pursue medical treatment.

2 Hospice is only for the last few days of life.

Truth: While hospice care is designed for those with a life expectancy of six months or less, patients can receive hospice services for longer as long as their condition continues to decline. It's important to start hospice early to benefit from all of the available cares.

3 Hospice means giving up hope.

Truth: Hospice isn't about giving up—it's about improving quality of life. The focus shifts from curative treatments to comfort, dignity, and meaningful moments with loved ones.

4 Hospice is only for cancer patients.

Truth: Hospice care is available for individuals with any life-limiting illness, including heart disease, lung disease, Alzheimer's, ALS, and other chronic conditions.

5 Hospice care is expensive.

Truth: Hospice is typically covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans. Many nonprofit hospice organizations, like The Superior Care + Program, also offers financial assistance to ensure no one is turned away due to cost.

6 Hospice is only provided in a facility.

Truth: Hospice care can be provided wherever the patient feels most comfortable—whether at home, in a nursing facility, or in a hospice center. The goal is to create a familiar and supportive environment.

7 Hospice speeds up the dying process.

Truth: Hospice care does not influence the timing of end of life. Instead, it focuses on symptom management and comfort, allowing patients to experience an improved quality of life and a more peaceful and dignified journey.

8 Hospice means no more medical care.

Truth: Hospice care includes expert medical attention focused on managing pain & symptoms. Patients continue to receive medications, treatments, and therapies that enhance comfort and quality of life.

9 Hospice replaces the patient's regular doctor.

Truth: Hospice works alongside a patient's primary doctor and healthcare team, ensuring a collaborative approach to care. Patients and families can continue consulting their trusted physicians while receiving hospice support.

10 Hospice care is only for the elderly.

Truth: While many hospice patients are older adults, our hospice services are available for any individuals over the age of 18 years old.

11 Families no longer have a role in caregiving once hospice is involved.

Truth: Hospice provides support & guidance, but families remain actively involved in their loved one's care. Hospice teams offer respite, education, & resources to help caregivers navigate their loved one's hospice journey.

12 Choosing hospice means stopping all food and water.

Truth: Patients and families make decisions about nutrition & hydration with guidance from the hospice team. Hospice does not force the withdrawal of food or fluids but respects the body's natural processes and the patient's wishes.

13 Hospice care is the same everywhere.

Truth: Not all hospice programs are the same. Services & additional therapies can vary by provider. It's important to understand your provider & learn all the cares they offer.

14 Hospice is just for the patient.

Truth: Hospice also provides emotional, spiritual, and practical support for anyone close to the patient. At Superior Hospice, we are proud to provide support and resources to families, friends, loved ones and facility and caregiver staff for 13 months after one's passing.

15 Hospice nurses and caregivers are available 24/7 in the home.

Truth: While hospice teams are available around the clock for support and emergencies, they do not provide 24/7 bedside care. Families often work with hospice to create a plan that includes caregiving support when needed.

16 Hospice is the same as palliative care.

Truth: Hospice is a type of palliative care, but not all palliative care is hospice. Palliative care can be provided at any stage of illness and alongside curative treatments, while hospice is for end-of-life care when treatments are no longer pursued.

24/7 Availability

Phone: 763.277.8777 Fax: 763.277.8778

www.superiorhospice.net