



# Is it time for Hospice?

with Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care

Your patient might be appropriate for Hospice if.....

## **Worsening Clinical Status**

- Recurrent or intractable infections; pneumonia; sepsis; UTI's
- Weight loss not due to reversible causes
- Dysphagia leading to recurrent aspiration and/or decreased oral intake
- Decreasing serum albumin or cholesterol

## **Worsening of Symptoms**

- Dyspnea with increasing respiratory rate
- Intractable cough
- Nausea, vomiting poorly responsive to treatment
- Intractable diarrhea
- Pain requiring increasing doses of major analgesics more than briefly

## **Worsening of Signs**

- Decline in systolic blood pressure to below 90, or progressive postural hypotension
- Ascites
- Venous, arterial or lymphatic obstruction due to metastasis or disease progression
- Edema
- Pleural/pericardial effusion
- Weakness
- Change in level of consciousness

## **Other signs to look for that might indicate your patient is ready for hospice:**

- Decline in KPS or PPS due to disease progression (performance scale)
- Decline in FAST (dementia scale)
- Increased dependence in ADL's
- Progressive stage 3 or 4 pressure wounds despite excellent wound care
- Increase ER Visits, hospitalizations, or physicians visits related to terminal diagnosis

Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care makes patients as comfortable as possible at the end of life. Our highly skilled hospice team not only optimizes each patient's quality of life, they provide training and education to the in-home caregivers. To make a referral or for additional information on Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care's services please contact us.

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