



End Stage COPD Caregiving with Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care

Reasons to choose Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

- **Ongoing Assessment** The Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care team continually monitors and assesses the patient's condition, quickly making the physician aware of changes that could signal a need for alterations in the plan of care. Changes in lung function as related to increased shortness of breath, increased oxygen needs, and lung congestion are carefully assessed.
- **Certified Medical Professionals** Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care's Certified Director of Nurses, Nurse Practitioners and Nurse Case Managers are available for consultations and home visits.
- **In-home Caregiver Education** Knowledge and training about disease process and medication management equip caregivers to deal with end-of-life issues, increasing patient comfort and decreasing unnecessary office visits and hospitalizations.
- **Palliation of all symptoms associated with COPD** The Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care team has expertise in the palliation of all symptoms of COPD, including shortness of breath, decreased ability to complete activities of daily life, changing oxygen needs, and anxiety.
- **Comfort Kits** Medications are immediately available to hospice patients suffering a crisis in an in-home comfort kit.
- **Oxygen and nebulizer needs** are provided by our contracted Oxygen and DME provider, and are available on very short notice.

Hospice Criteria for Lung Disease Patients

1 and 2 must be present; factors from 3 will add supporting documentation:

1. Severe chronic lung disease with disabling dyspnea at rest, poorly responsive to bronchodilators, with decreased functional capacity
2. Hypoxemia at rest with oxygen saturation on room air of 88% or less
3. Documentation of the following factors will support eligibility for hospice care:
 - Blood gas studies
 - Right heart failure secondary to pulmonary disease
 - Unintentional weight loss > 10% last 6 months
 - Resting tachycardia > 100/min
 - Increased Emergency or hospital visits relating to pulmonary conditions or infections.

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.

Front Range Hospice and Palliative Care
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