



WHY TIMING MATTERS

Benefits of Earlier Hospice Election

The earlier hospice begins, the more it can give — more comfort, more time together, and more space for families to prepare and heal. This is how the benefit changes as time grows shorter.



Six Months

BEFORE END OF LIFE ·
IDEAL

- Patient and family can focus on quality of life and time together
- Emergency room visits reduced or eliminated
- Pain and symptoms are well-controlled
- Emotional and spiritual needs addressed through counseling
- End-of-life plans developed and being implemented
- Adequate time allows for acceptance and a full grieving process

Three Months

BEFORE END OF LIFE

- Pain and symptoms managed; ER visits unlikely
- End-of-life plans developed and implemented
- Counseling begins to address emotional and spiritual needs
- Time for the grieving process is becoming limited

Four – Six Weeks

BEFORE END OF LIFE

- Pain and symptoms still often controllable
- Limited time places stress on family; end-of-life issues harder to address

- Emergency room visits become possible
- Families often struggle to move through grief toward acceptance

Two Weeks

BEFORE END OF LIFE ·
MOST STRESSFUL

- Emergency room visits probable
- Pain and symptoms manageable only in part, unless out of control
- Very little time to address end-of-life issues or reach acceptance
- Patient may not have time to use all hospice services
- Families often overstressed and focused on immediate needs



Choice Hospice can provide hope

Please contact your dedicated Hospice Liaison, **Anna Knapp** — the sooner we connect, the more we can do.

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