



Open Access Hospice Program



Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care is proud to offer the first Open Access Hospice program in the greater Chicago area. Open Access is a hospice program that allows patients currently receiving medical treatments and/or experiencing intense psychosocial issues to access hospice services earlier.

Open Access is a blended model between curative and palliative care.

Who is eligible?

- Patients with an advanced illness who have a limited prognosis
- Patients who continue to receive medical treatments such as:
 - Ventilator support
 - IV antibiotics
 - TPN
 - IV hydration
 - Cardiac drips
 - Chest tubes
 - Tube feedings
 - Hemo/peritoneal dialysis for non-hospice diagnosis
 - Palliative radiation
 - Oral chemotherapy
 - Biological response modifiers i.e. Procrit®, Neupogen®, Epogen®
- Patients who need additional time to complete the discharge planning from the acute care setting
- Patients with complex psychosocial needs who have:
 - not yet made long term care plans
 - not engaged in thorough acute care discharge planning
 - been unable to arrange safe, appropriate caregiving in home setting
 - not yet applied for Medicaid or have other financial needs

Benefits of Open Access Hospice

- Increases time for patients and families to engage in advance care planning and process issues related to the advanced illness while utilizing hospice care services
- Allows patients to receive hospice care services earlier and provides them with more assistance in care planning needs
- Supports strong collaborative relationships between Seasons Hospice and the discharge planning team during difficult communications with patients and families
- Begins hospice care services while the patients are making the transition from curative to palliative care
- Helps patients and families understand when care is futile and allows them to request discontinuation of measures in their own time frame
- Demonstrates significant length of stay reduction in an acute care setting
- Incorporates the referring physician's recommendations into a coordinated plan of care with the patient and family.

When to refer a patient

Call Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care to evaluate any patient who demonstrates a limited prognosis, yet has continued medical interventions. Each patient is evaluated on an individual basis.

Financial Coverage for Open Access

The hospice Medicare and Medicaid benefits are inclusive, and there are no additional charges billed to patients and families. Coverage under a managed care contract is negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

Where are Open Access services provided?

Open Access Hospice services are provided in the patient's own home, as well as in the Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care Inpatient Units located in Lincoln Park and Holy Cross Hospitals. Our inpatient units are staffed to take patients with complex treatment needs and are ideal settings to transition care and facilitate family movement to focus on quality of life. Our Continuous Care program affords us the opportunity to care for patients receiving these medical interventions in the homecare setting by providing nursing and certified nursing assistant services in the home for 24-hour periods on a limited time basis.



Our Mission:

Honoring Life ~ Offering Hope

Our Vision is to:

- ♥ *recognize that individuals and families are the true experts in their own care,*
- ♥ *support each other so we can put our patients and families first,*
- ♥ *find creative solutions which add quality to life,*
- ♥ *strive for excellence beyond accepted standards, and*
- ♥ *increase the community's awareness of hospice as part of the continuum of care.*

Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care Services

Open Access

Allows patients currently receiving disease modifying medical treatments and/or experiencing intense psychological issues related to a life-limiting illness to access hospice services earlier.

Inpatient Units

Seasons Hospice Inpatient units are located in Lincoln Park and Holy Cross Hospitals. These units assist patients with complex pain and symptom management needs, thereby relieving the burden of caregiving and allowing patients and families to focus on the important quality of life issues.

Music Therapy

The Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care program is committed to providing a comprehensive interdisciplinary team approach to hospice care, recognizing the power of music as an integral component of our holistic approach to the treatment of our patients and their families.

Kangaroo Kids

This supportive program is specifically designed with a special sensitivity and skill, offering comprehensive, coordinated and all-encompassing care to children with life-limiting illnesses and their families.

Palliative Care

Qualified specialists led by certified hospice and palliative care physicians and advanced practice nurses provide pain and symptom management to enhance the quality of life for patients who do not meet the hospice eligibility criteria or are not ready to access hospice care.

800-570-8809

JCAHO Accredited

www.seasons.org