



Hospice Austin
Your comfort. Our calling.

Referral Form

To: Hospice Austin Admission Department

Fax: (512) 343-7117

Phone number: (512) 342-4700

Email: access@hospiceaustin.org

From: _____

Pages (including cover): _____

Physician's Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Fax: _____

Patient's Name: _____

Date of birth: _____

Reason for Hospice Referral: _____

Evaluate and admit to Hospice Austin if appropriate. Please include H&P

Physician Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Hospice Eligibility Guidelines

Below are some general guidelines that your patient may be ready for hospice care. However, your patient may still be appropriate for referral even if none of these signs are present. If you would not be surprised if your patient died within the next six months, call Hospice Austin for a consult.

General signs/symptoms of decline: ↓PO intake, ↑sleep, ↑pain, change in bowel/urine output, weight loss, anxiety/restlessness, ↑assist w/ ADLs, change in BP, edema, change in breathing patterns.

<p>CANCER:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Metastasis/Stage 4 ○ Declining in spite of treatment ○ Decision to stop treatment ○ Pain 	<p>PULMONARY DISEASE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dyspnea at rest ○ Respiratory infections ○ On oxygen ○ Hypercapnea = pCO₂ > 55 ○ Supportive Documentation: right-sided heart failure; weight loss; tachycardia; use of nebulizer ○ ↓ O₂ sat 	<p>HEART DISEASE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use of diuretics, vasodilators ○ Discomfort with activity ○ Angina ○ Ejection fraction < 20 ○ Supportive Documentation: arrhythmias; irregular heart rate; cardiac arrest or resuscitation; syncope; brain embolism; HIV 	<p>RENAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decision to stop dialysis or treatments ○ Creatinine clearance < 10 ○ Serum creatinine > 8 ○ Bacterial Peritonitis ○ Supportive Documentation: Mechanical ventilation; GI bleed; lung disease; liver disease; AIDS; cachexis; D.I.C.; malignancy (w/ another organ); cardiac disease; sepsis; albumin < 3.5; platelet count < 25,000
<p>NEURO/ STROKE/ PARKINSON'S:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PPS < 40% ○ Weight loss ○ Serum Albumin < 2.5 ○ Aspiration ○ Dysphagia ○ Decreased PO intake ○ Supportive Documentation: aspiration pneumonia; sepsis; stage 3 or 4 ulcer; fever; UTI; CT with brain hemorrhage ○ Mobility/function ○ Muscular rigidity 	<p>LIVER DISEASE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PT > 5 or INR > 1.5 ○ Serum Albumin < 2.5 ○ Ascites ○ Bacterial Peritonitis ○ Hepatorenal Syndrome (↑creatinine & BUN, urine output < 499cc, urine sodium < 10) ○ Variceal bleeding ○ Supportive Documentation: malnutrition; hepatitis B or C; muscle wasting; alcoholism; liver cancer; ↓strength or endurance 	<p>DEMENTIA/ ALZHEIMER'S:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-ambulatory ○ Requires assist with all ADLs ○ Incontinent (urine &/or fecal) ○ Speech (less than 6 words, unintelligible or stereotypical phrases only) ○ Supportive Documentation: weight loss; aspiration pneumonia; UTI; septicemia; decubitus; recurrent fever; serum albumin < 2.5 	<p>HIV/AIDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CD4+ Count < 25 ○ Viral Load > 100,000 ○ CNS Lymphoma ○ Toxoplasmosis ○ Renal failure ○ Kaposi's Sarcoma ○ Systemic Lymphoma ○ Muscle wasting ○ MAC Bacterium ○ PPS < 50% ○ Supportive documentation: Persistent diarrhea; Serum albumin < 2.5; Age > 50; CHF; drug abuse; liver disease; AIDS dementia

- Hospice Austin cares for patients with a life expectancy of six months or less. Hospice Austin will work with you and your patient to create a care plan that meets your patient's unique needs. Members of the Hospice Austin care team (physician, nurse, social worker, chaplain, aide and volunteer) provide care in a patient's home, nursing facility or hospital.
- Austin's only hospice inpatient facility, Hospice Austin's Christopher House, is available to help temporarily when care cannot be provided at home. Each of the 15 patient rooms open onto a private patio and have the amenities of home with 24-hour expert palliative care. Loved ones and pets are welcome to stay with the patient.
- Hospice Austin has been caring for Central Texas families since 1980. As a nonprofit hospice, no patient is ever turned away because of the complexity of disease, cost of care, or inability to pay.