



All Care VNA  
 All Care Palliative Care  
 All Care Hospice  
 All Care Private Care  
 All Care Adult Foster Care

# UNDERSTANDING PALLIATIVE CARE

## What is Palliative Care?

- Palliative Care is specialized medical care focused on improving the quality of life for people with serious, chronic, or life-threatening illnesses including:
  - Dementia/Alzheimer’s disease
  - Respiratory disease (COPD/Emphysema)
  - Cancer (any stage)
  - Cardiac disease (stroke, heart failure)
- The aim is to care for patients while focusing on the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the patient and their family as they navigate through the stresses of their disease process.
- Palliative care is suitable at any time during a chronic or advanced illness.

## What Services Are Included?

- Home visits by both nurse practitioners and registered nurses
- Care coordination with patient’s physician
- Individualized focus on pain and symptom management
- Goals of care conversations and advanced care planning
- Spiritual and emotional support for patient and their families

## How Palliative Care Helps:

- Manages pain, nausea, fatigue, shortness of breath and other distressing symptoms
- Improves ability to continue participating in day-to-day activities
- Assists in achieving the best possible quality of life for patients during a serious, chronic, or life-limiting illness while also supporting their loved ones and caregivers

Hospice and palliative care both offer relief from the pain and symptoms of a serious illness.

They also address the emotional, social and spiritual needs of patients and their families.

**The primary difference is that hospice patients are are no longer seeking a cure for their disease.**

QUESTION	PALLIATIVE CARE	HOSPICE CARE
Who qualifies for this type of care?	<b>Anyone with a serious illness</b>	Anyone with a terminal diagnosis who doctors feel has a <b>life expectancy of six months or less</b>
Can curative treatments be continued?	Yes, many individuals who receive palliative care <b>continue to receive curative treatments</b>	No, the goal of hospice is to provide <b>comfort care</b> when curative treatment is no longer beneficial
What types of services are provided?	Pain and symptom management, in-person and telephonic visits, help navigating treatment options, advance care planning, referrals to community resources	Pain and symptom management, 24-hour on call service, in-person visits, medical equipment, medications, respite care, volunteer services, spiritual care and bereavement counseling
How is this type of care paid for?	Covered under Medicare B, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans	100% coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurance plans

For **ALL** Your Home Care and Hospice Needs

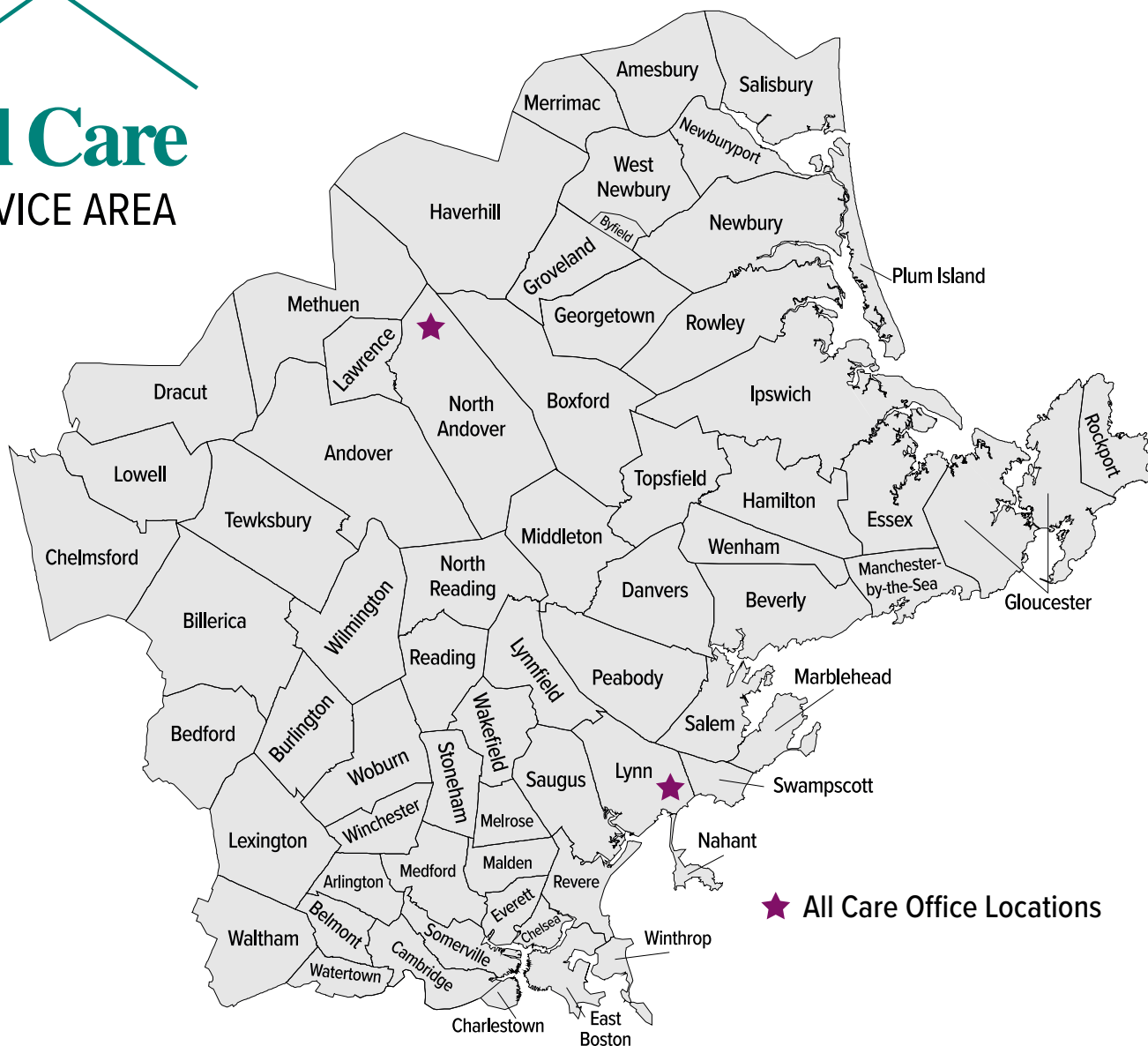
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# All Care

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