

Several of the issues you face in choosing a hospice are similar to those in finding the right home care agency.

HOSPICE AND STAFF BACKGROUND

- 1) Is the hospice: An inpatient care facility? _____ A home-based caregiver? _____ Or both? _____
- 2) Licensing: Is the hospice licensed? _____ Are they bonded? _____
- 3) Ask specifically about credentials and the skill level of the staff, and to provide you with staff references. _____

The ideal hospice staff will include a:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Doctor _____ | <input type="radio"/> Psychologist _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> RNs and LPNs _____ | <input type="radio"/> Counselor _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Physical and occupational therapist _____ | <input type="radio"/> Social worker _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Chore workers _____ | <input type="radio"/> Home health aides _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Clergy or spiritual advisors _____ | <input type="radio"/> Do they offer spiritual care in your belief? _____ |

NOTES: _____

THE CARE PLAN

- 4) Request that a written care plan be completed, with both the family and the doctor involved. The plan should address:
- Eligibility _____ Payment _____
 - Which staff will be assigned? _____
 - What services will be provided? _____
 - The faith beliefs of the patient. The hospice should respect your religious tenets. _____
- 5) This is especially important in pain management. Under whose supervision will the hospice work:
- Your personal physician? _____ Their staff doctor? _____

NOTES: _____

SERVICES AND CARE PROVIDED

- 6) Will hospice provide:
- Help with activities of daily living? _____
 - Physical and massage therapy? _____
 - Ventilator care? _____
 - Nursing care? _____
 - Counseling services for the patient and the family? _____
 - Overnight care? _____

