



Public Health Nurse Addendum – Hospice

Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree in nursing required. Exceptions may apply for AD nurses with extensive hospice experience. Preferred qualifications include 1-3 years of experience in hospice, homecare, hospital or nursing home services.

Program Responsibilities

Performs comprehensive assessment to identify the physical, emotional, psychosocial and spiritual needs related to the terminal illness in order to promote the hospice patient's well-being, comfort and dignity throughout the dying process.

Document patient assessment, interventions and plan of care in the electronic medical record including collaboration in facilities to utilize their electronic medical records.

Teach end of life cares including symptom management, personal cares, medication management and administration and use of equipment to patients, caregivers, and health professionals to promote comfort through all changes at end of life.

Collaborate with hospice interdisciplinary team, physicians, pharmacies, medical equipment providers (vendors), health professionals at assisted livings, adult foster homes, skilled nursing facilities, and clinics, hospitals to coordinate and provide care.

Coordinate care according to the plan of care established by the patient and family including coordination of services provided by all hospice staff, medications and equipment.

Perform clinical patient care including accessing and maintenance of central lines, medication administration, and place and maintain indwelling urinary catheters, obtain specimens for lab testing, wound care, personal care and ostomy cares. Maintain other medical equipment and devices as required.

Develop a plan of care focused on the patient and family goals, implement interventions based on the plan of care, evaluate progress towards goals and adjust plan as needed.

Integrates knowledge of disease process to manage symptoms working independently using hospice standing orders to problem solve, manage and titrate medications to promote comfort.

Participates in providing 24 hour on call care for hospice patients and coordinates care for patients provided by the on call team. Applies Medicare hospice regulations in practice.

Provide counsel to clients and family with grief and coping with end of life changes including participation with bereavement functions.

Educate health care professionals and the community at large about hospice and palliative care.

Other responsibilities as directed by supervisor.