



What is In Home Care?

In Home care is a service that provides assistance with the essential activities of daily living at home to recovering, disabled, chronically or terminally ill persons.

Professional level services may also be included in the client's treatment plan and are provided by Home Health Agencies or Hospice Agencies.

How is In Home Care different from Home Health and Hospice Care?

The following definitions are provided so that you can best determine what agency or combination of agencies you may hire to best meet your need for service at home.

In Home Care Agency:

This service hires qualified care providers who have been screened and educated to care for clients who need assistance with basic activities of daily living. The services provided may include meal prep, shopping, housekeeping, bathing, dressing, transfer assistance, transportation and end of life care. Depending on the type of license this agency holds they may also offer assistance with stable skilled nursing tasks such as: medication management, special diets, simple bandage changes, bowel programs, ostomy management, diabetic management and catheter management.

Home Health Agencies:

These Medicare certified agencies provide the services of Licensed Nurses, Social Workers, Physical Therapists, Speech Therapists and Occupational Therapists to manage medical conditions that are considered unstable and unpredictable. The services provided may include post surgical wound management, IV fluid management, IV antibiotics administration, patient teaching of nursing tasks, catheter management, pain management, physical, speech and occupational therapy and assistance developing a long term plan for your care.

Hospice Agency:

This Medicare certified service provides Social Workers, Grief counselors, Nurses and Bath aides for clients who have been certified by a physician to have a terminal diagnosis with a prognosis of less than 6 months. The services provided will be centered on keeping client's comfortable through the dying process. No curative medical treatments are offered unless they also provide for the comfort of the clients.