Effectively Utilizing In-Home Health Care

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Blue Water Homecare
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Figure 1 – Total Texas Population Age 60+

Total Texas Population Age 60+ in Millions

Source: US Census 2010 and Texas State Data Center, University of Texas at San Antonio. Population projections based on the 1.0 scenario.
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Austin metro area is the second fastest growing population of older adults (65+) and fastest growing population of adults age 55-64, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Our population that is living and working longer, as well as requiring services and infrastructure to ensure their physical, mental, emotional and financial well-being
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Agenda

1. Types of In-Home Health Care
2. Choosing type of In-Home Care for your situation
3. Identifying when someone needs care
4. Choosing a provider
5. Questions
Types of In-Home Care

1. Homecare
2. Home Health
3. Hospice
4. Palliative Care
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**Homecare**

1. Payer Source
2. Services Provided
3. Length of Care/Service
4. Do you need MD order?
5. Who provides care?
Home Health

1. Payer Source
2. Services Provided
3. Length of Care/Service
4. Do you need MD order?
5. Who provides care?
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Hospice

1. Payer Source
2. Services Provided
3. Length of Care/Service
4. Do you need MD order?
5. Who provides care?
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Palliative Care

1. Payer Source
2. Services Provided
3. Can you continue with treatments?
4. Length of Care/Service
5. Do you need MD order?
6. Who provides care?
How do I choose what type of care is needed? And When?
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Case Study #2
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When is it time for care?

1. After an ER Visit, hospital or rehabilitation stay
2. Change in mobility
3. Person is frail and non-groomed
4. Changes to their home environment
5. Weight loss
When is it time for care?

6. Falls
7. Loss of spouse
8. Frequent infections
9. Unexplained dents in the car
10. New Medications
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Home Care

Provides compassion and help for seniors that need help with ADL’s (Activities of Daily Living), transportation, medication reminders or companionship
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What does care look like?

Companionship
Help Bathing, Dressing, and Grooming
Transportation
Laundry
Help with bills, mail and groceries
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Home Health Care

Team of skilled professionals including: RN, Physical, Occupational, Speech Therapy
**Sometimes home health aide/CNA
Wound Care
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**What does Home Health Care Look Like?**

1. Physician orders RN and Therapy Evaluations
2. Care is based on physician orders
3. Short term
Hospice

Is for terminally ill people that have 6 months or less to live. Can be provided in a home, nursing home, assisted living, memory care, in-patient hospice or hospital.
What does hospice look like?

Physician
RN Case Manager (LVN)
CNA
Social Worker
Chaplain
Bereavement Coordinator
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What does care look like?

Intermittent care
Maximum of 1 hour visits unless crisis
Palliative Care

Supportive care focused on eliminating pain and suffering. The person may or may not be treated for a terminal illness.
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What does Palliative Care Look Like in the Home?

Palliative care physician or nurse practitioner works with individuals primary care or specialist physicians to manage pain or other symptoms.
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Choosing a provider

1. How does this provider select and train its employees?
2. Does it perform background checks on staff? What background findings will eliminate a caregiver from employment with your agency?
3. Who provides the in-home assessment before starting care?
4. Do they have RN’s on staff?
5. Does the provider assign supervisors to oversee the quality of care that clients are receiving in their homes? If so, how often do these individuals make visits? What are the credentials of the supervisors?
6. How do they manage call-outs/late caregivers?
Questions???