



# Hospice Informative Visits

## What are they?

## How can they help?

### What are Hospice Informative Visits and How Can They Help?

- Hospice Informative Visits provide education and information, allowing for increased understanding about hospice services and end of life care.
- Hospice Informative Visits provide an opportunity to address patient/family questions and concerns which reduces fear and anxiety.
- Hospice Informative Visits can also assist with facilitating *difficult conversations*, because talking about end of life is not something most people are comfortable doing. Our highly trained Hospice staff is experienced at having these conversations and can assist you and your patient in navigating and addressing the many questions, concerns and uncertainties that often exist with end of life care planning and transitioning from curative treatment to comfort care.
- Additionally, if providers have questions about Hospice appropriateness or eligibility, a member of our Hospice team can assist with this evaluation through a request for a Hospice Informative Visit. There is no cost to the patient or obligation to begin services.

### How to Initiate a Hospice Informative Visit?

Call or fax our Central Intake department requesting a Hospice Informative Visit to determine appropriateness and eligibility. Our Hospice Team is here to help in any way that we can to provide the support and care needed for your patients facing end of life.

The most common feedback we hear from families....

*“We only wish we would have called Hospice sooner”*

**To Make a Referral or Request an Informative Visit:**

**VNA Central Intake: P: 866-591-8843 | F: 207-400-8894 | F: 207-400-8895**

VNA Home Health & Hospice (EMHS - Member) 50 Foden Road, South Portland, ME. 04106

Counties Served: Cumberland, York, Kennebec, Somerset, Penobscot, Hancock, Aroostook - [www.vnahomehealth.org](http://www.vnahomehealth.org)