

Physicians

Our Services

Comprehensive End-of-Life Care

Full Family Support

Ongoing Grief and Education Services

Our Strengths

Incomparable Experience

Extraordinary Compassion

Unwavering Commitment

Our Distinction

Community Based

Community Focused

Community Supported

PHAX

June 2006

HospiceCare — ComfortPak

HospiceCare ComfortPaks have been developed to address the most common symptoms at the end of life and the most urgent problem for HospiceCare: immediate access to the appropriate medications.

Upon admission, a patient is assessed for ComfortPak placement. Once the nurse and pharmacist have ensured that the home is safe and the placement of a ComfortPak is appropriate for the patient, the kit is sent to the patient, to arrive the next day. Physician Orders for the contents of the ComfortPak are pre-approved by the Primary Physician before the ComfortPak is placed with a patient, so the medication can be used when the need arises.

The ComfortPak in the home (Home can also be an Independent or Assisted Living apartment) ensures that patients always have immediate access to a 48-hour quantity of medications for management of the most common symptoms experienced by hospice patients: pain nausea/vomiting, fever, agitation, secretions, anxiety, and breathlessness.

HospiceCare nurses praise the ComfortPaks, and highly regard the immediate access to appropriate medication for palliation of new hospice symptoms. With the right medications easily accessible, patients receive the best care, and nurses can manage critical symptoms immediately, without leaving the patient's home. The Contents of a standard **HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties ComfortPak** are:

ABHR (Ativan®/Benadryl®/
Haldol®/Reglan®)
0.5/12.5/0.5/10 mg 6 (suppositories) 1 supp pr q 4–6 h prn or UD
Acetaminophen 650 mg 6 (suppositories) 1 supp pr q 4–6 h prn or UD
Haloperidol 2 mg/mL 15 mL (liquid) 0.5–1 mL (1–2 mg) po q 4–6 h or UD
Hyoscyamine 0.125 mg 10 (tablets) 1 tab sl q 4–6 h prn or UD
Lorazepam 1 mg 10 (tablets) 1 tab po q 6–8 h prn or UD
Morphine Sulfate 20 mg/mL 15 mL (solution) 0.25–0.5 mL (5–10 mg) po or sl q 3–4 h prn or UD
Prochlorperazine 10 mg 6 (tablets) 1 tab po q 6 h prn or UD
Prochlorperazine 25 mg 6 (suppositories) 1 supp pr q 12 h prn or UD
a UD = as directed.

A ComfortPak is included in the per diem for all patients, regardless of the hospice diagnosis.

There are also specific ComfortPaks/kits such as the Cardiac ComfortPak and the Seizure Kit...for terminal needs such as a Cardiac diagnosis or a terminal diagnosis that is associated with an increased risk for seizures.

For more information or any questions regarding Hospice ComfortPaks, please contact HospiceCare of Boulder and Broomfield Counties at 303-449-7740.

HospiceCare
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