

# HCAI Services

## **Who Provides Home Care?**

Home care agencies are primarily concerned with the treatment or rehabilitations of patients who need skilled nursing care or therapy. Their patients are predominantly under the care of a physician, and the skilled care they received through the home health agency is furnished in accordance with a physician's order. A physician will authorize a coordinated plan of treatment for home care services and periodically review the delivery and effectiveness of those services, sometimes recommending changes.

## **Nurses**

Registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) provide the direct skilled nursing services for the patient, supervise other caregivers as required and coordinate patient care with the physician. They also train family members and friends in functions they perform to assist the professional caregivers and maintain the patient when professional services no longer are necessary. Skilled nursing service may include catheter changes, dressing changes, wound care, IV therapy, and medication administration.

## **Home Care Aides**

Trained paraprofessionals assist with bathing, grooming, dressing, cooking and cleaning. Home care aide services can be indispensable and are supervised by the nursing staff of a home care agency.

## **Social Workers**

Social workers assist the patient and family in vital areas including evaluation of the financial circumstances and ability to pay for necessary home care services. Knowledgeable in community resources, they direct people to needed to pay for necessary home care services. Knowledgeable in community resources, they direct people to needed local support systems.

## **Therapists**

Physical, occupational, speech and respiratory therapists provide essential services according to the needs of the individual patient. Physical therapy is concerned with the restoration and prevention of disability following disease, injury or loss of body part. Therapy may involve gait training, exercises to increase muscle strength, training to use walker, patient and family education or rehabilitative treatment to restore mobility and independence.

Occupational therapy is concerned with an individual's capacity to perform these daily living tasks essential to a productive and satisfying life. Therapy may involve teaching skills that will assist the patient in the management of personal care and cooking preparation. Speech pathologists are concerned with disorders in the production, reception and perception of speech and language. Speech therapists provide restorative therapy, diagnostic and evaluation services and therapeutic services.

## **24 Hour On-Call Availability**

Care is available seven days a week. If a problem should arise, a registered nurse is on call 24 hours a day to offer advice over the phone and, if necessary, to make a home visit.

## **How Is Home Care Paid For?**

Home care is paid for by a variety of sources including Medicare, Medicaid, Social Services Block Grant, Older Americans Act, private health insurance, Veterans' Administration, workers' compensation, health maintenance organizations (HMOs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs), CHAMPUS, social services organizations and patient/private pay and county taxes. Services usually paid for are skilled nursing, therapies, home health aides and homemakers.

## **We Are Here For You**

As your neighbors, we share the interests and concerns of the communities we serve. Our goal is to provide high quality home health care at a price you can afford. So, if you or a loved one needs our help or you just have a question, please feel free to call. We can help you stay where you want at home.