



# HOME HEALTH CARE For the GASTROENTEROLOGY PATIENT

## EXAMPLE DIAGNOSES

Gastric Ulcer • GI Tract Cancer • Ileostomy  
GI Tract Surgery • Ulcerative Colitis  
Crohn's Disease • Colostomy  
Paralytic/Dysfunctional GI Tract

## SKILLED NURSING

Visit frequency determined by physician orders and assessment of patient's condition and needs.

### Services Provided:

- Skilled Observation/Assessment/Evaluation of:
  - Signs/symptoms of complications/infection
  - Response to medication
  - Physical/mental limitations
  - Changes in activities of daily living
  - Coping mechanisms
  - Environmental safety factors
- Procedures, Treatments as Prescribed:
  - Gastrostomy care
  - Nasogastric tube management
  - Dressing changes and wound care
  - Suture/staple removal
  - Venipuncture for lab, drug levels
  - Foley catheter insertion/management
  - Administer medications: IM, IV, SC, etc.
  - Enterostomal therapy
  - Feedings
  - Tube site care
  - Bowel/bladder care
- Patient/Family Teaching of Care for:
  - Disease process – care management
  - Medication administration, side effects
  - Diet, bowel regime
  - Equipment for feeding, preparation and storage of feeding
  - Feeding protocols
  - Use of pumps

- Oral hygiene
- Stoma care/skin care
- I and O
- Care of gastric tube/site
- Choking precautions

- Management and Evaluation of the Care Plan for:
  - Prolonged/extended home health care needs
  - Continued personal care service
  - Multiple services and caregivers for complicated/complex care
  - Terminal supportive care
  - High potential of changes for the at-risk patient

## HOME HEALTH AIDE

Visit frequency based on patient's needs for assistance with activities of daily living, physician orders and assessment by RN.

### Services Provided:

- Bathing
- Dressing assist
- Grooming/hair care
- Oral care
- Toileting
- Transfers
- Ambulation
- Light meal preparation
- Routine exercises
- Medication reminders
- Cleaning patient care area
- Care of orthotic/prosthetic devices
- Reality orientation/communication assist

## Home Health Care for the Gastroenterology Patient

### MEDICAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Counseling and intervention can be provided by the medical social worker when the home social dynamics affect the medical condition of the patient. Visit frequency determined by the patient's physical and social needs and physician's orders.

#### *Services Provided:*

- ❖ Psychosocial assessment/evaluation
- ❖ Financial assistance
- ❖ Counseling for long range planning
- ❖ Housing/nursing home placement
- ❖ Community resource planning
- ❖ Contingency/emergency care planning
- ❖ Brief therapy
- ❖ Crisis intervention

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Visit frequency based on patient's needs and physician orders for evaluation, treatment, and teaching.

#### *Services Provided:*

- Therapy:
  - Activities of daily living and self-care training
  - Work simplification
  - Energy conservation
  - Graded activity program
  - Retraining in homemaking skills and other instrumental activities of daily living
  - Development of therapeutic program of activities to increase range of motion, strength and endurance
  - Swallowing difficulties/choking precautions
- Teaching:
  - Environmental safety measures
  - Use and care of durable medical equipment
  - Therapeutic adaptations
  - Home modifications
  - Home program for rehabilitation

### PHYSICAL THERAPY

Visit frequency based on assessment of patient's condition and needs and physician orders.

#### *Services Provided:*

- Therapy:
  - Assess rehabilitation needs/potential
  - Develop a specific rehabilitation program
  - Increase muscle tone
  - Strengthening program
  - Home adaptation
- Teaching:
  - Home maintenance program
  - Transfer techniques
  - Safety measures
  - Equipment use
  - Functional activities

### SPEECH THERAPY

Visit frequency based on assessment of patient's communication needs and physician's orders.

#### *Services Provided:*

- Establish Communication Skills Program for:
  - Language disorders
  - Articulation
  - Dysfluency
  - Voice disorders
  - Cognitively impaired
  - Laryngectomies and glossectomies
  - Dysphagia treatment program
  - Rehabilitation program