



# HOME HEALTH CARE for the ONCOLOGY PATIENT

## EXAMPLE DIAGNOSES

Cancer of Lung • Cancer of Breast • Cancer of Colon  
Multiple Myeloma • Leukemia • Metastases  
Radiation Enteritis • Lymphoma • AIDS

## 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/treatments
  - Physical/mental limitations
  - Changes in activities of daily living
  - Coping mechanisms/advocacy needs
  - Environmental safety factors
- Procedures, Treatments as Prescribed:
  - Venipuncture for lab, drug levels
  - Nasogastric tube management
  - Gastrostomy tube management
  - Foley catheter insertion/management
  - Dressing changes and wound care
  - Suture/staple removal
  - Administer medications, IM, IV, SC, etc.
  - Pain management
  - Central line, port, pump management
  - Management chemotherapy side effects
  - Ostomy
  - Bowel/bladder care
- Patient/Family Teaching of Care for:
  - Disease process – care management
  - Diet, bowel regime
  - Medication administration/side effects
  - Side effects of chemotherapy
  - Activity level/safety precautions
  - Skin care, turning, positioning, ROM
  - Catheter care

- Clean intermittent catheterization
- Pain/symptom control measures
- Tube feedings/care
- Emergency procedures
- Safety/universal precautions
- Seizure precautions
- Coping skills/death and dying

- Management and Evaluation of the Care Plan for:
  - Prolonged/extended home health care need
  - Continued personal care service
  - Multiple services and caregivers for complicated/complex care
  - Terminal supportive care
  - High potential of change in status

## HOME HEALTH AIDE

Visit frequency based on patient's needs for assistance with activities of daily living/instrumental 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 Oncology 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:
  - Assessment of upper extremity function and balance in regard to ADL
  - Develop and implement therapeutic program to restore function
  - Fabrication of splints
  - Home modification for safety and accessibility
  - Energy conservation through work simplification
- Teaching:
  - Environmental safety measures
  - Use and care of durable medical equipment
  - Therapeutic adaptations
  - Home modifications

### PHYSICAL THERAPY

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

#### *Services Provided:*

- Therapy:
  - Transfer training
  - Gait training/ambulation for increasing balance, strength and functional endurance
  - Establish a home rehabilitation program
  - Modalities for pain control, i.e. ultrasound, electrical stimulation, TENS
  - Follow - up care
- Teaching:
  - Body mechanics education
  - Home maintenance program
  - Transfer, gait training
  - Safety measures
  - Equipment use/care/safety

### 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
  - Design dysphagia treatment program
  - Design aural rehabilitation program