Hospice Eligibility Guide

When should **Tabitha Hospice** services be considered? To help make that important decision, use these guidelines, along with your physician's recommendations.





- Decline in functional status (requiring increasing assistance and medical care)
- · Unintentional, progressive weight loss of more than 10 percent during past six months (may indicate other disease processes listed)
- · Multiple hospitalizations or ER visits
- · Change in cognitive ability
- · Family/patient electing comfort care



- · Change in functional status (frequent falls)
- · Edema
- · Diuretic therapy
- · Cachexia, profound weight loss
- · Dyspnea at rest or with exertion



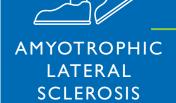
- · Dyspnea at rest or with exertion
- · Oxygen-dependent
- · Recurrent infections
- · Progressive cough
- · Resting tachycardia
- · Home/chair-bound



- · Dependent for:
 - Ambulation
 - Dressing/bathing
- · Incontinence of urine and stool
- · Unable to speak or communicate intelligibly
- Recurrent infections
- · Difficulty swallowing
- · Poor nutritional status









- Intractable
 - · Fluid overload
 - · Hyperkalemia
- · Oliguria
- · Generalized pruritus
- · Ascites
- Prothrombin time prolonged more than five seconds beyond control
- · Serum albumin less than 2.5 gm/dl
- · Slurred speech
- · Decreased environmental awareness
- · Emotional lability
- · Rapid progression: critical factor
- · Decline during past 12 months in:
 - Mobility
 - · Speech
 - Swallowing
 - ADLs
 - Breathing
- Frequent/recurrent infections
- · Disease with metastases at presentation
- Progression from earlier stage of disease to metastatic disease and patient declines further disease-directed therapy

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Other conditions may be eligible for hospice care.

For a free evaluation, please call Tabitha Hospice today.

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