

Personalized Home Health Care

Which Patients Benefit from Home Health Care?

Those whose wounds require nursing intervention and are:

- > Complex
- > Slow healing or non-healing
- > Draining or infected
- > In need of negative pressure treatment
- > In need of evaluation and monitoring
- > Associated with chronic diseases
- > At high potential for complications

Helen's Story

While Helen had been managing her Type 2 diabetes well, she began to have pain in her left foot where it repeatedly rubbed against her shoe. At first chalking it up to a blister, Helen soon noticed the open sore was bleeding and discharging fluid. During her next office visit, her doctor diagnosed a diabetic foot ulcer.

Because she had caught it relatively early, Helen was able to avoid foot amputation. Her doctor cleaned the wound, drained the fluid from the ulcer and removed the infected tissue. Helen's home health team took over from there.

Her home health nurses applied special bandages and ointments to her foot ulcer to protect the wound and help it heal. Rehabilitation team members also worked with her to navigate using the crutches her doctor prescribed to take weight off her affected foot.

With their care, Helen's wound was soon healed and she was back on her feet again.

Home Health Helps with:

- > Developing a wound treatment plan in cooperation with the physician/provider to ensure wound healing
- > Providing a wound-care nurse to define and monitor wound care treatment and progress
- > Assessing and overseeing wound care and the healing process
- > Educating patients and caregivers in measures used to manage and treat wounds, prevent complications and control infections
- > Providing skilled observation and wound assessment, and early identification if wound concerns arise

