Anna elects the Medicare Hospice Benefit, and members of her interdisciplinary team (IDT) visit Anna regularly in accordance with her care plan. The IDT includes a physician, nurse, social worker, chaplain, hospice aide, and volunteers. With the assistance of the IDT, Anna is able to attend her grandson’s wedding.

Anna’s health beings to deteriorate, causing her family emotional distress. The hospice social worker and chaplain are able to counsel and comfort them. One night, Anna falls in her home. Anna calls the hospice, and a hospice nurse quickly arrives to examine Anna, avoiding an unnecessary trip to the hospital.

Anna’s family continues to receive bereavement care from the hospice for one year after Anna’s death. Anna dies peacefully in her home, surrounded by her family, just like she wanted. She spent 66 days under hospice care.

As Anna’s condition continues to decline, the hospice IDT helps Anna’s family prepare for her death, according to her wishes and the plan of care. While initially skeptical about hospice, Anna learns she can stay at home, be supported by a care team, and maintain a high quality of life. A hospice volunteer visits Anna’s home once a week. Anna’s family appreciates the support and companionship Anna receives.

Anna’s family continues to receive bereavement care from the hospice for one year after Anna’s death.

Anna, 78 and suffering from heart failure and diabetes, has been given a prognosis of 5 months to live.

Anna is able to remain on insulin to keep her diabetes stable. Anna’s family continues to receive bereavement care from the hospice for one year after Anna’s death.

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**DID YOU KNOW?** A patient is eligible for hospice if 2 physicians determine that the patient has a prognosis of 6 months or less to live.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice care is provided wherever the patient lives.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice staff is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospices provide surviving families grief support for at least one year.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice enrollment is associated with significantly fewer hospital and ICU days.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice enrollment is associated with better patient quality of life near death.

**DID YOU KNOW?** In 2014, 60.6% of hospice volunteers assisted with direct patient support.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Over 90% of families of hospice patients report that the care their loved one received was very good or excellent. 96% of families reported that their patient was always treated with respect.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice staff is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Hospice care is provided wherever the patient lives.

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