

Chapter 12

Home care

2021

Definitions

**Home Health care refers to the delivery of •
health services in the home setting for
purposes of restoring or maintaining or
promoting the physical, mental and
emotional health of individuals and families.
Health care providers practice in the client's
environment.**

Definitions

- **Home health nursing** is the provision of nursing to acute, chronic and terminally ill clients of all ages in their homes while integrating community health nursing principles that focus on the environmental, psychosocial, economic, cultural, and personal health factors affecting a client's and family's health status and well-being . The focus of home health nursing is individuals and their families.

Definitions

- **Home care nurse** is a community health nurse who provides skilled nursing services focusing on physical nursing care needed by family members who are ill, injured, or in the acute or terminal phase of a disease process.
- **A home health agency** is a public agency or private organization that is primarily engaged in providing skilled nursing care and other therapeutic services. Examples of home health agencies are visiting nurse associations, official health agencies, and hospital-based home care programs.

Hospice

- Services are delivered to terminally ill clients in their residence. It signifies a care perspective that recognizes that death is inevitable and near and that cure is not within present human capacity. These services are comprehensive and delivered by an inter-professional team
- Hospice population can include any person diagnosed with an illness that can't be cured, who chooses not to continue active treatment, and has less than 6 months to live. It provides palliative care, which is comfort care directed at the alleviation of pain and other symptoms.

Factors have contributed to the growth of home health care

1. The increase in the older population, who are frequent recipients of home care.
2. Preference of home care by elders
3. The ability home carer institutions to deliver high-technology services in the home

Objectives of Home Care

1. Support families and individuals to avoid admission to institutional care settings.
2. Provide respite for family caregiver for continuous care and supervision of elderly and physically impaired persons
3. Maintain or restore elderly and physically impaired persons to optimal functional potential.
4. Provide for support and follow up services to persons residing home
5. Facilitate appropriate release of elderly and physically impaired persons from acute and long term care facilities to family care or to other community-based programs

