

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is STAT Home Health's *Cancer Matters* Program?

Cancer Matters is a home health program specifically designed to care for patients who have cancer of any type and are currently under the care of an oncologist. These patients may be receiving chemotherapy, radiation or both.

How do I know if my loved one or I is eligible to participate in STAT Home Health's *Cancer Matters* program?

To be a patient of STAT Home Health a patient must be medically homebound. Patients receiving chemotherapy or radiation therapy are immunocompromised* and are therefore considered to be medically homebound.

**The term Immunocompromised means that a patient's immune system may not be able to effectively protect the patient from infection or disease. This is a side effect of chemotherapy and/or radiation.*

How is STAT Home Health's *Cancer Matters* program different that traditional (*regular*) home health programs?

Cancer Matters is a unique program specific for Cancer patients receiving treatment. The program consists of nurses and therapists working together with you and your Oncologist to anticipate and prevent issues that are common to patients suffering from Cancer who are receiving chemotherapy and/or radiation. This is very important because anticipation and prevention of medical problems that occur as a result of your cancer treatment allows you to continue chemotherapy and cancer treatments without interruption due to illness caused by side effects. This allows you to keep what matters most in your health care on the front burner, rather than delay and interruption of important chemotherapy.

What are the benefits of STAT Home Health's *Cancer Matters* program?

In STAT Home Health's ***Cancer Matters*** program you will suffer from less illnesses and complications that are caused by the side effects of chemotherapy or radiation. In the ***Cancer Matters*** program you are better able to tolerate chemotherapy and radiation. STAT's team will work with you to anticipate and prevent:

- Debilitating pain
- Dehydration
- Electrolyte imbalances
- Infection

- In the event of infection, if your physician approves, STAT Home Health's nursing team can administer IV antibiotics in your home rather than requiring admission to the hospital.
- Nutritional issues
- Falls
- Bowel or bladder issues.
- Prevention of wounds and skin management issues
- Weakness and loss of fine motor control due to peripheral neuropathy* caused by medications.
 - *Peripheral neuropathy is a condition in which patients have pain, lack of sensation or numbness in their hands in feet. This may cause falls or limit your ability to perform tasks such as opening medicine bottles or using appliances with your hands.

What are other benefits available to patients in STAT Home Health's *Cancer Matters* Program?

- The program will result in increased compliance and tolerance to Cancer treatment.
- The program will reduce the amount of necessary trips to the Emergency Room for symptom management.
- The program will reduce the number of hospitalizations associated with management or treatment of side effects.

Are medical professionals other than my Oncologist and my STAT Home Health team available to participate in my care?

Of course your primary care doctor will be involved in your case. But if you are not feeling well and are unable to leave your home, STAT Home Health has a partner to help you. Homedica is a company of physicians and nurse practitioners who make house calls on our behalf. The Homedica team can work closely with your oncologist, your primary care physician and STAT Home Health to ensure you get the best care when and where you need it.

The end result is what matters most. The treatment of your Cancer remains your primary medical problem because with STAT Home Health *Cancer Matters* most.