

## **Hospice Care - Calgary Zone**

### **What is hospice care?**

When remaining at home is no longer possible, or a hospital admission is no longer required, your care provider might suggest hospice care as the most suitable alternative. Hospice care is a focused team approach within a specialized setting which provides 24 hour care to individuals nearing the end of their life. The mission of the hospice team is to provide holistic comfort care in a peaceful environment that strives to maintain a person's dignity and individuality.

The hospice team is comprised of physicians, nurses, social workers, spiritual care staff, health aides and volunteers. Family and friends are welcomed as part of this team to whatever extent they are comfortable. Care and compassion is extended to both the individual and the loved ones with an awareness that every person's journey is unique.

### **How to access hospice in the Calgary Zone**

Alberta Health Services (AHS) -Calgary Zone provides hospice care through seven contracted service providers throughout the greater Calgary area.

Once the decision has been made that hospice would best meet your or your loved ones needs, you will be asked to identify at least three preferences from the list of hospices on the back of this handout. We will do our best to arrange for you to go to one of these preferred hospices.

To help minimize the wait time before transferring you may request to be put on the waitlist for any of our seven hospice locations. This allows for placement in the first available bed.

Please be aware that there may be clinical situations where specific hospices will not be an option for placement.

When a bed becomes available at any of the hospices you have selected, you will be notified and arrangements will be made for transfer as soon as possible. Please be aware that once you are on the hospice wait list, transfer may occur very quickly.

*Your Palliative Care provider will assist you in the hospice placement process.*

### **Tours**

Please contact the individual hospices at the phone numbers listed below if you would like to make an appointment to tour their facility. The hospices are not able to accommodate tours that have not been booked in advance.

### **Transfers**

Once admitted to a hospice, we do not transfer from one hospice to another.

In some circumstances patients will stabilize and are then no longer appropriate for the hospice setting. In such situations the individual will be reassessed for transfer to a more suitable location or program where he/ she can access the right care for their needs. These transfers are usually to home or a care facility.

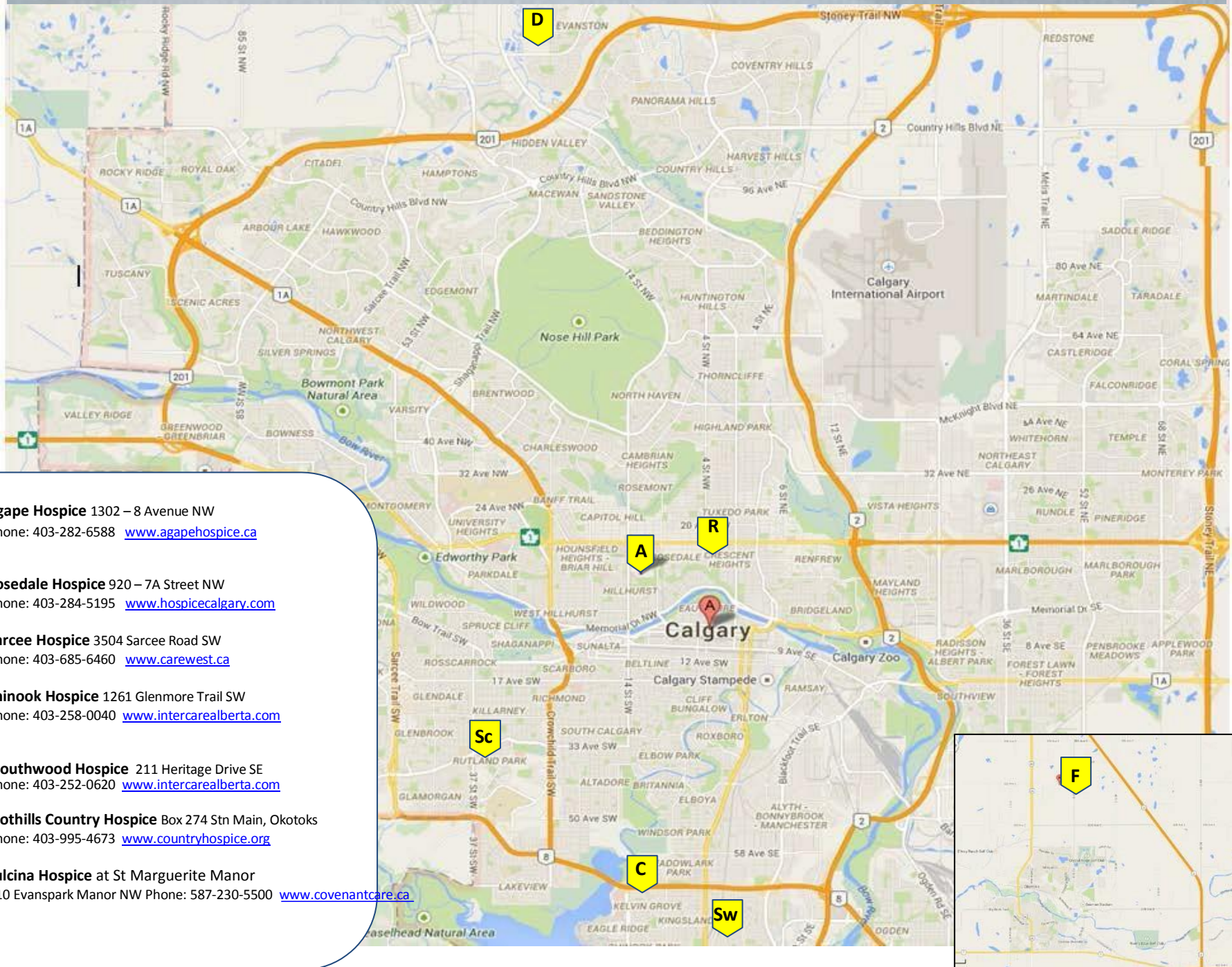
### **Costs associated with hospice care**

Oxygen and oxygen set up are provided to hospice patients by home oxygen vendor agencies. Patients are responsible for the cost of oxygen and oxygen supplies while in hospice. Some or all of the costs associated with oxygen may be covered by Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL). Please refer to "O2 funding process for adults" on the AADL website.

Pharmacy services are provided to hospice patients by contracted community pharmacies. In the Calgary Zone, hospice patients qualify for the Alberta Blue Cross Palliative Care Drug Program which provides premium-free drug coverage with no waiting period. The patient is responsible for 30% of the cost of drugs to a maximum of \$25 per prescription. The lifetime maximum amount the patient pays is \$1,000.

*Items that are not covered include: infusion equipment/ supplies, diabetic supplies (excluding insulin), pharmacy dispensing fees, etc.*

# Calgary Area Hospices



**A – Agape Hospice** 1302 – 8 Avenue NW  
 Phone: 403-282-6588 [www.agapehospice.ca](http://www.agapehospice.ca)

**R – Rosedale Hospice** 920 – 7A Street NW  
 Phone: 403-284-5195 [www.hospicecalgary.com](http://www.hospicecalgary.com)

**Sc – Sarcee Hospice** 3504 Sarcee Road SW  
 Phone: 403-685-6460 [www.carewest.ca](http://www.carewest.ca)

**C – Chinook Hospice** 1261 Glenmore Trail SW  
 Phone: 403-258-0040 [www.intercarealberta.com](http://www.intercarealberta.com)

**Sw – Southwood Hospice** 211 Heritage Drive SE  
 Phone: 403-252-0620 [www.intercarealberta.com](http://www.intercarealberta.com)

**F – Foothills Country Hospice** Box 274 Stn Main, Okotoks  
 Phone: 403-995-4673 [www.countryhospice.org](http://www.countryhospice.org)

**D – Dulcina Hospice** at St Marguerite Manor  
 110 Evanspark Manor NW Phone: 587-230-5500 [www.covenantcare.ca](http://www.covenantcare.ca)