

Your Big Bend Hospice care team has identified you or your loved one as being at risk for breathing problems.

Because of this, we have requested equipment and medication to assist if you or your loved one experience shortness of breath.

Big Bend Hospice provides you with equipment, medication and education to help you manage any shortness of breath at home. After you are admitted to Big Bend Hospice, a nurse will visit to assist with training in the use of the equipment, medications and to answer any questions you may have about the program. You and your registered nurse case manager can discuss how often the nursing visits will occur to ensure that you remain comfortable in your home.



EQUIPMENT:

Oxygen Concentrator

An oxygen concentrator is a medical device used to deliver oxygen for conditions that cause or result in low levels of oxygen in the blood. It works much like a window air conditioning unit by:

- Taking in air from its surroundings.
- Compressing the air.
- Removing nitrogen from the air.
- Adjusting delivery settings.
- Delivering the purified oxygen.



Nebulizer Machine

A nebulizer machine is a medication delivery device used to deliver medication in the form of a mist inhaled into the lungs. Inhaled medication is more rapidly delivered to the lungs, providing faster relief from the feeling of shortness of breath.



Medications

Oral medications may include lorazepam (Ativan®) to relieve anxiety, ipratropium bromide/albuterol solution (DuoNeb®) to relieve shortness of breath and morphine sulfate oral solution, used to treat pain and shortness of breath. Big Bend Hospice provides instruction on the dosage of each medication and how to properly administer the dose.

Remember, Big Bend Hospice is here to support you. Call your Big Bend Hospice team if you have any questions or concerns at (850) 878-5310.