

Categories of Services in Animal End-of-Life Care

	Palliative care & euthanasia in-hospital services	In-home euthanasia services	Palliative end-of-life care services	Hospice care *
Home visits palliative care	No	No, or limited	Yes?	Yes
24/7 emergency access to phone support	No, unless emergency clinic	No, unless emergency clinic	No, unless emergency clinic	Yes, by hospice provider
24/7 emergency access to in-home care	No	No	No	Yes
Quality-of-life scoring tools or symptoms of illness (incl. normal signs of the dying process) used to determine time to euthanize	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (Quality of life is tracked only for symptom management)
Comfort kit provided**	No	No	No (not in general)	Yes (always)
In-hospital euthanasia	Yes	N/A	No (not in general)	No (not in general)
In-home euthanasia – pre-scheduled appointment	N/A	Yes	Yes	No
24/7 In-home euthanasia availability in emergency	No	No (not in general)	No (not in general)	Yes
Majority of animal patients die via euthanasia	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

* *Full hospice services:* all services made available through team of single provider

Collaborative hospice services: all services made available through combined providers

** Comfort kits at a minimum contain anti-anxiety and anti-nausea medications and a **strong and fast acting** painkiller in formulations that do not require swallowing. Additional medications may be chosen according to symptoms that may typically develop during the progression of the disease process present in a particular animal patient.