

# Homecare

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES FOR PATIENTS

# Homecare definition

---

- = Nursing and domestic care for people in need of care in their own homes
- can be given by:
  - family members
  - Volunteers
  - Professional nurses
- several forms



# Types of homecare

## **Care by relatives**

- Majority of home care
- Often no other option
- Often feel obliged to care for their family members

## **Help from neighbours**

- Usually smaller tasks (laundry, cleaning...)
- Organisations offer coordinated neighbourhood assistance

---

## **Nursing service**

- professional nurse comes to the patient's home
- several time options
- most widely used form

## **24h care**

- Nurse lives in the same house
- Addition for relatives
- Breaks are important: max. of 48h work per week
- Precisely defined tasks

# Advantages and disadvantages for patients

---

## Advantages

- Familiar environment
- Patients are more self confident in their own home, lower risk for consequential diseases such as dementia
- Care is more individual and personal
- Relatives can see the patient regularly
- Costs less than a nursing home

# Pros and cons for patients

---

## **Disadvantages**

- Environment must be adapted: stair lifts, care bed...
- Lack of staff
- can be stressful for relatives → tensions between patient and his relatives
- Characterised by surprises: Falling, illnesses...
- Can lead to social isolation

# Conclusion

---

- Home care allow patients to stay in a familiar environment
- Different forms: relatives, neighbours, professional service
- Pros: individual, familiar, lower costs, more independence for patients
- Cons: higher risk in emergencies, home needs adjustments, isolation, stress for relatives



If your family member  
needed care, would you  
recommend home care?

---



---

Cable, Lisa (2019): Watch: The Advantages and Disadvantages of Home Care, Radfield Home Care.

URL <https://www.radfieldhomecare.co.uk/097/news/watch-the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-home-care>, abgerufen am 26. Mai 2025.

Gesund.bund.de (2025): Pflege zu Hause: Diese Möglichkeiten gibt es.

URL <https://gesund.bund.de/pflege-zu-hause>, abgerufen am 23. Mai 2025.

Geyer, Johannes und Schulz, Erika: Who cares? Die Bedeutung der informellen Pflege durch Erwerbstätige in Deutschland.

Küffel, Markus (2021): 24 Stunden Pflege zu Hause: So finden Sie die optimale Betreuung. Berlin, Heidelberg, Springer Berlin Heidelberg.

Nowossadeck, Sonja; Engstler, Heribert und Klaus, Daniela (2016): Pflege und Unterstützung durch Angehörige. Berlin, Deutsches Zentrum für Altersfragen.

Pfabigan, Doris (2021): Pflege zuhause: den Alltag selbstständig bestimmen. In: Sailer, Gerda (Hrsg.): *Pflege im Fokus: Herausforderungen und Perspektiven - warum Applaus alleine nicht reicht*. Berlin, Heidelberg, Springer, S. 65–92.

Wetzstein, Matthias; Rommel, Alexander und Lange, Cornelia (2015): Pflegende Angehörige – Deutschlands größter Pflegedienst.

Young, Katherine (2024): Home care: the pros and cons, Rest Less.

URL <https://restless.co.uk/care-support/home-care-the-pros-and-cons/>, abgerufen am 23. Mai 2025.