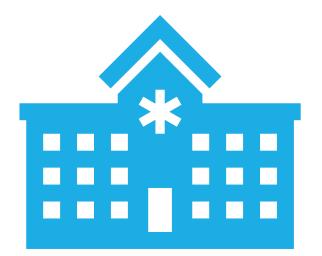
## Homecare

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:
- $\rightarrow$  family members
- $\rightarrow$  Volunteers
- $\rightarrow$  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

 $\succ$  can be stressful for relatives  $\rightarrow$  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

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

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