Home Health Care

A Medicare Scholar Presentation



When recovering from an illness or injury, your doctor may recommend that you receive some form of rehabilitation

- Inpatient in a Skilled Nursing Facility
- Outpatient therapy, like physical, occupation, and speech-language pathology
- Home Health Care



Home Health Care

In general, the goal of home health care is to treat an illness or injury.

Home health care helps you:

- Get better
- Regain your independence
- Become as self-sufficient as possible
- Maintain your current condition or level of function



What's Covered?

- Intermittent Skilled Nursing Care
- Physical therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech-Language Pathology Services
- Home Health Aide services
- Medical Social services
- Medical Supplies





What's Covered?

Examples of skilled home health services include:

- Wound care for pressure sores or a surgical wound
- Patient and caregiver education
- Intravenous or nutrition therapy
- Injections
- Monitoring serious illness and unstable health status





Medicare Doesn't Pay For:

- 24-hour-a-day care at home
- Meals delivered to your home
- Homemaker services like shopping, cleaning and laundry
- Custodial, or personal care, like bathing, dressing, and using the bathroom when this is the only care you need.



Eligibility

- You're under the care of a doctor, and you're getting services under a plan of care
- You need, and a doctor certifies that you need, one or more of:
 - Intermittent skilled nursing care (other than drawing blood)
 - Physical Therapy
 - Speech-language pathology services
 - Continued occupational therapy



Eligibility continued

- Your doctor certified that you're homebound, meaning:
 - You have trouble leaving your home without help because of an illness or injury, or leaving your home isn't recommended because of your condition, or
 - You're normally unable to leave your home, but if you do it requires a major effort
- The home health agency caring for you is approved by Medicare



Plan of Care

A plan of care lists what kind of services and care you should get for your condition:

- What services you need
- Which healthcare professionals should give these services
- Visit schedule
- How often you'll need the services
- Needed medical equipment
- What results your doctor expects treatment



What to Expect

- The agency will schedule an appointment to talk about your needs and ask some questions about your health
- The agency will talk to your doctor about your care and keep your doctor updated
- It's important that the home health staff see you as often as the doctor ordered



What to Expect continued

The home health staff should:

- Check what you're eating and drinking
- Check your blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, and breathing
- Check that you're taking your prescriptions and other drugs and any treatment correctly
- Ask if you're having pain
- Check your safety in the home
- Teach you about your care so you can take care of yourself
- Coordinate your care with you, your doctor, and anyone else who cares for you



What You Pay

If you're enrolled in Original Medicare, you pay nothing for services except:

- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Medicare-covered equipment, like wheelchairs, walkers, and oxygen equipment
- Any non-Medicare covered services or supplies



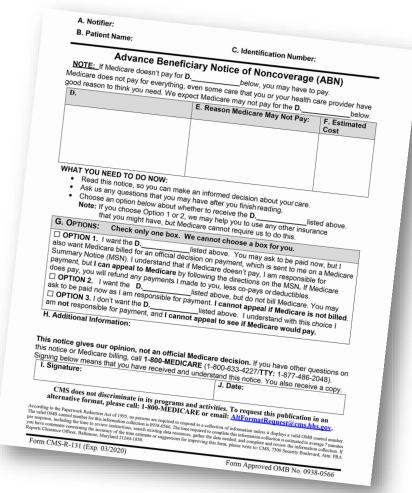
What You Pay continued

- Ask the home health care agency about what services Medicare will pay for and what is not covered.
- Home heath agencies must notify you of the cost of services in writing before starting care



Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN)

The agency must give you a written notice before giving you a service or supply that Medicare probably won't pay for. The notice should describe the service/supply and why Medicare won't pay.





Comparing Home Health Agencies

www.medicare.gov/HomeHealthCompare

Shows you information about agencies in your area

- Name, address, phone number
- Services offered
- Initial date of Medicare certification
- Type of ownership (for profit, government, non-profit)
- Quality Measures



Comparing Home Health Agencies





Is Home Care Different?

- Non-skilled or custodial care
- Includes activities of daily living like
 - Bathing
 - Dressing
 - Eating
 - Chores
 - Health-related care that most people can do on their own, like taking insulin
- You may need to pay for Home Care separately while receiving Home Health Care



	Home Health Care	Home Care
Original Medicare Approved	Yes	No
Medicare Advantage Approved	Yes, may vary by plan	No
Covers Long Term Care	No	Yes, if specified
Skilled Nursing	Yes	No
Rehabilitation Therapy	Yes	No
Meal Preparation	No	Yes
Activities of Daily Living (bathing, cleaning etc.)	No	Yes





Questions?



Thank You for Attending!



Sources

- https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services
- CMS Publication No. 10969 Medicare and Home Health Care – Revised October 2017
- https://www.medicare.gov/whatmedicare-covers/whats-home-healthcare
- https://www.medicare.gov/homehealthc ompare

