

Medicare Hospice Benefit

Hospice Care is expert, compassionate, individualized care which focuses on personal goals and optimizes quality of life for people facing life-limiting illness.

We care where you are.



What is the hospice benefit?

- The emphasis of hospice care is on effective **symptom management**.
- The goal is to make the patient as **physically and emotionally comfortable** as possible, to enable the patient to **remain wherever they call home** to ensure there are **minimal disruptions to normal activities**.
- **Counseling and respite services** are available to the family of the hospice patient.
- Hospice considers both the **patient and the family** as the unit of care.

What is the cost of hospice?

Medicare pays for 100% of hospice care once a patient is eligible.

Elara Caring accepts Medicare, Medicaid and most commercial insurances that have a hospice benefit.

The Medicare benefit is designed to add quality of life, support and extra benefits for patients and their families for **180 days**, yet **40%** of people only receive **18 days** of care because they were not referred when they became eligible.¹

Don't let **your** patients miss out on the added benefits of hospice support.

¹NHPCO Facts and Figures: Hospice Care in America. Alexandria, VA: National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, April 2018.



Each patient has unique care needs.

The frequency of visits is based on the patient's individual care plan and is modified as often as needed to meet patient and family needs and goals.



How do I make sure my patients get the support they need when they need it?

Referring to hospice is easy. Contact your Elara Caring representative, call our intake line or go online to elara.com/refer.

Our clinical team which includes a hospice physician will assess your patient wherever they call home to determine eligibility.

Once eligibility is established, we provide the support and resources they need so that they can focus on living as fully as possible by spending time and energy on the activities they enjoy with the people that matter.

What if the patient's condition improves?

The patient always has the right to stop hospice service for any reason at any time. The patient also can resume the hospice benefit as long as they meet eligibility. The Elara Caring care team can help facilitate this process.

Hospice Benefits

- Physician services and nursing care
- Social worker services
- Certified nurse aide and homemaker services
- Chaplain and spiritual counseling
- Medical equipment such as wheelchairs, medical beds or oxygen
- Medical supplies
- Medications associated with admitting diagnosis and related conditions
- Education and resources to support:
 - Function (ambulation, transfer, dressing, bathing feeding, toileting)
 - Nutrition (eating, drinking, hydration, nourishment)
- 13-month bereavement support