Covering Hospice

Covering Hospice with Medicare, Medicaid, or Private Insurance

Everyone deserves to live comfortably and with dignity. Hospice care makes that possible. For many patients, hospice is covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance.

How do I Know if Hospice Care is Covered?

Most hospice costs are usually covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance.

- **Private Insurance**: Review your plan or call your insurance company. The best number is usually on the back of your insurance card.

- **Medicare**: If you have Medicare Part A, most hospice services are covered. To check your Medicare coverage you can call 1-800-MEDICARE.

- **Medicaid (MaineCare)**: Contact MaineCare Member Services at 1-800-977-6740 to learn about your benefits.

Am I Eligible for Hospice?

Patients may be eligible for hospice care if they have a chronic illness and life expectancy of approximately six months or less, based on the illness's typical progression. This includes conditions such as advanced cancer, heart failure, lung disease, and dementia, among others.

In most cases, a health care provider must certify that the patient is ready for hospice care.

Commonly Covered Hospice Services

Commonly covered hospice services include:

- Pain and symptom management
- Goals of care conversation
- Spiritual support and guidance
- Counseling and emotional support
- Personal care
- Disease-specific education
- Physical, occupational, wound, and speech therapy consultations
- Respite care for caregivers
- Bereavement support following the loss of a loved one

How to Access Hospice Care

1. **Start the conversation** — Discuss hospice with your family and care team

2. **Select an approved hospice provider** — To find out if a hospice provider is approved by Medicare and Medicaid, ask your doctor or contact the hospice agency's referral team

3. **Apply for care** — Complete your hospice provider's application and sign appropriate forms

Accessing Hospice Care at MaineHealth

At MaineHealth, our Medicaid-certified hospice agencies are here to help you or your loved one embrace every moment, celebrate life, and create lasting memories in the place you call home.

To learn more:

MaineHealth Home Health & Hospice:

1. Complete our online referral form at mainehealth.org/hhh

2. Call 207-284-4566

MaineHealth CHANS Home Health & Hospice

1. Complete our online referral form at mainehealth.org/chans

2. Call 207-729-6782