

Billing Medicare Part B for Patients on Hospice

Office visits related to a patient's hospice terminal diagnosis can be billed if:

- You are the patient's attending physician of record (listed on the hospice care plan as the attending physician)
- Your biller uses the Modifier GV on the bill, which states that services billed are related to the hospice terminal diagnosis and that you are the patient's hospice attending physician

Diagnostics or procedures related to the hospice terminal diagnosis must be pre-authorized by the patient's hospice team and billed directly to hospice. Diagnostics or procedures related to the terminal illness are not payable by traditional Medicare. Those performed without hospice pre-authorization might not be reimbursed. (For pre-authorization, contact your patient's team, 503-215-2273, and ask for the team supervisor.)

Office visits, diagnostics and procedures unrelated to the patient's hospice terminal diagnosis can be billed if:

- Your biller uses Modifier GW on the bill, which states that services are not related to the hospice terminal diagnosis. (This includes visits, diagnostics and procedures.)

You do not need to be the attending physician of record to bill for services unrelated to the terminal diagnosis.

Dual Diagnosis Clarification

Per Medicare guidelines, a hospice patient can be on skilled care in a nursing home for one diagnosis AND on hospice care for a separate terminal diagnosis. For example:

- A patient receiving rehabilitation services for a hip replacement may be on hospice with a diagnosis of end-stage COPD. All care related to the hip replacement is billable.
- A patient may be in a skilled nursing unit for complications from a stroke; he may also be on hospice with a diagnosis of end-stage COPD. All care related to the stroke is billable.

If you have questions regarding billing or dual diagnosis, please call Michelle at 503-215-4118.

To make a referral to Providence Hospice:

In Portland:
503-215-CARE (2273)

In the Columbia Gorge:
541-387-6449

OUR MISSION

As people of Providence, we reveal God's love for all, especially the poor and vulnerable, through our compassionate service.

OUR CORE VALUES

Respect, Compassion, Justice, Excellence, Stewardship

Providence Health & Services, a not-for-profit health system, is an equal opportunity organization in the provision of health care services and employment opportunities.