

# Medicare Hospice Benefit

## Benefit Overview

The Medicare Hospice Benefit (MHB) is offered through Part A (Hospital Insurance) and is available for those who have a terminal illness and whose life expectancy is months not years. Medicaid mirrors the MHB, so this applies to recipients of that entitlement as well.

## Eligibility

As a Medicare beneficiary, you are entitled to access the MHB if you:

- Have Medicare Part A (hospital), **and**
- Are certified by your doctor and the hospice medical director as appropriate for hospice care, **and**
- Sign a statement choosing a Medicare-certified hospice program using the MHB for the terminal illness.

## Services Covered

As long as services are related to the hospice diagnosis and are outlined in your care plan, the MHB covers the services that are provided by your hospice care team. Services **may** include:

- Physician consultation to promote comfort
- Nursing care
- All medications related to the hospice diagnosis
- Medical supplies (e.g., bandages and catheters) and medical equipment (e.g., wheelchairs or walkers)
- Short-term care in the hospital
- Respite care at a contracted facility
- Home health aide
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Social worker
- Chaplain
- Dietary counseling
- Grief and loss counseling to help you and your family

*This information is provided by:*



*A nonprofit, community-based healthcare organization.*

## Contact Us

**We are available 24 hours every day.** Give us a call if you have any questions or would like to request services.

**(847) 467-7423**

**TTY: (800) 526-0857**

OR send an e-mail to [careinfo@carecenter.org](mailto:careinfo@carecenter.org).