

Providence Home Health and Palliative Care

A Guide in Determining Homebound Criteria

Medicare defines someone as homebound if he/she:

- Is unable to leave home due to illness or injury
- Endures “considerable and taxing effort” in order to leave home
- Leaves home infrequently and for short periods of time to receive medical care that cannot be provided in the home

Medicare **ALLOWS** homebound patients to:

- Leave home to participate in therapeutic, psychological or medical treatment in an adult day care program, licensed or certified by the state
- Leave home to attend religious services or special occasions

A patient is **NOT** considered homebound if he/she:

- Leaves home to shop or conduct business on a regular basis
- Leaves home for frequent social activities or work
- Can safely go to outpatient therapy services

Homebound Status Determination

Does your patient safely leave home frequently for non-medical purposes?

Yes – Not eligible for referral

No (continue)

Does your patient require assistance when leaving home?

No – Not eligible for referral

Yes (continue)

Does your patient endure considerable and taxing effort when leaving home?

No – Not eligible for referral

Yes (continue)

Does your patient need skilled services and meet medical necessity criteria?*

No – Not eligible for referral

Yes (continue)

Make a referral for skilled services.

* Based on insurance, home health services must be initiated from an order for a “skilled” service: registered nursing care, mental health nursing, or physical or speech therapy. Other therapies, such as social work, occupational therapy and home health aides, may be added after the initial referral.

If you are uncertain as to whether a patient meets criteria for home services, please call us.

Providence Home Health and Palliative Care

Portland: 503-215-4646 ■ Fax: 503-215-4671

Hood River: 541-387-6339 ■ Fax: 541-387-6347

North Coast: 503-717-7788 ■ Fax: 503-717-7044

Benedictine: 503-845-9226 ■ Fax: 503-845-9880

Providence Home Health and Palliative Care

Providence Home Health offers home-based professional medical services to patients who are unable to leave home easily to visit their doctor or receive medical treatments.

Medicare patients must be “homebound” and meet medical necessity criteria to receive home health services.

Providence Home Health offers:

- Nursing services, including wound care
- Physical, occupational and speech therapies
- Medical social work
- Mental health nursing
- Nutritional therapy
- Home health aides
- Collaboration with other Providence services, including medical equipment and oxygen, specialty pharmacy, home infusion, nutrition and integrative medicine
- Ongoing patient assessment with referral to other Providence services as needed

Providence Palliative Care focuses on management of pain and symptoms for patients who have advanced disease or chronic illness. This service is a funded home-health benefit. Therefore, patients must meet homebound and medical necessity criteria.

Providence Palliative Care offers all home health services plus:

- Ability for patients to continue receiving active treatment related to their illness
- Coordination of care with their physician
- Education for patient, family members and/or caregiver
- Spiritual care, as requested by the patient

For information or to make a referral, call Providence Home Health and Palliative Care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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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