

Overview of Physician Services/Claims Process for Patients on Medicare or Medicaid Hospice Benefit (MHB/MDHB)

When MHB/MDHB patient receives care from:	For:	The following types of charges:	Claims should be forwarded to:	Does physician need to do anything special?	How are charges paid?	Source of reimbursement:
Attending Physician/Primary Care Physician (other than hospice Medical Director)	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	Professional charges (office visit, interpretation of x-ray, CT scan, oversight of plan of care)	Medicare Part B (or Medicaid if pt. does not have Med B and does have Medicaid)	YES. Note on claim that he/she is the attending physician for the hospice diagnosis and he/she is not an employee of the hospice	Directly to attending by Medicare Part B or Medicaid	Medicare B or Medicaid
Attending Physician/Primary Care Physician (other than hospice Medical Director)	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	Technical Charges (labs, x-rays, other nonprofessional services performed by physician or other healthcare professional)	Hospice	Bill hospice for technical charges	Directly by hospice	Hospice benefit
Physician who is “covering” for the Attending Physician/Primary Care Physician	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	Professional charges (office visit, oversight of plan of care)	Medicare Part B (or Medicaid if pt. does not have Med B and does have Medicaid)	YES. Note on claim that he/she is overseeing the patient’s care while the primary attending is not available and that he/she is not an employee of the hospice.	Directly by Medicare Part B or Medicaid	Medicare B or Medicaid
Physician who is “covering” for the Attending Physician/Primary Care Physician	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	Technical charges (labs, x-rays, etc.)	Hospice	Bill hospice for technical charges and note that he/she is overseeing the patient’s care while the primary attending is not available.	Directly by hospice	Hospice benefit
Attending physician who is hospice employee	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	All charges	Hospice	Bill hospice	Directly by hospice	Medicare A (over and above hospice benefit)
Consulting physician (Specialist, anyone other than primary or acting on behalf of primary)	Issues related to hospice diagnosis	All charges associated with palliative care provided that it is 1.) related to hospice diagnosis and 2.) approved by hospice as being within hospice plan of care	Hospice	Establish contract with hospice by calling King Cole at (206) 320-4000 and submit claim with supporting clinical documentation to hospice	By hospice after hospice passes through claim to Medicare A and receives reimbursement from Medicare A	Medicare A (over and above hospice benefit)
Any physician	Issues Unrelated to hospice diagnosis	All charges	Medicare Part B or Medicaid	No	Medicare Part B or Medicaid	Medicare B or Medicaid