

KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE: Home Health Versus Home Support Services

	Visiting Nurse Services	Home Support Services
What is it?	A Medicare benefit covering short-term nursing, therapy, and home health aide care for eligible residents.	A desirable solution for residents who wish to live independently but are in need of in-home care.
When would I need it?	After surgery, hospitalization, a fall with injury, significant illness, an exacerbation of a chronic condition, or doctor-ordered wound care.	Anytime you need help maintaining your independence!
Does Medicare pay for these services?	YES	NO
Does long-term care insurance pay for these services?	NO	Possibly. Talk to your long-term care representative.
Do I need to have a skilled need to qualify?	YES	NO
Are escort services available?	NO	YES
Does the care have to be ordered by a physician?	YES	NO
Is medication management available?	YES	YES
Are personal care services available? (i.e. bathing assistance)	YES	YES
Are meal preparation and light housework available?	NO	YES
Are medication reminders available?	NO	YES
How long are visits?	Visits are usually under an hour to perform the skill.	We offer up to 24-hour care in increments.
How long does my care last?	Care is covered as long as the services remain medically necessary and you maintain eligibility requirements.	As long as you need.
Can I get outpatient therapy services at the same time?	No, this would be "duplication of services." Therapy services under home health are covered at 100% when you have a skilled need and maintain eligible criteria.	YES
How do I learn more?	Call 301-572-8375 for more information.	Call 301-572-8344 for more information.

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