



HEALTHY CHOICES • HEALTHY PEOPLE • HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

How Home Health Has Changed Over The Years

Prior to July 1998, Medicare paid home health agencies per visit. As long as the patient had a skilled need and the services were ordered by a physician, we could continue visits with patients for a long period of time. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 was enacted on August 5, 1997 and this significantly changed the way Medicare paid for home health services. Home Health cuts originally were estimated at \$16 billion for expenditures over four years. Instead, the cuts totaled \$78 billion in less than three years.

In July of 1998 Medicare went to the Interim Payment System (IPS). Under IPS each Home Health Agency was provided with a certain payment, per patient, per year. In other words if we saw a patient for daily dressing changes we were paid a set amount regardless of how many visits we made for the entire year. We were paid just \$3,000.24 per patient per year. It was the same whether we saw patient 2 times or 200 times. The onset of IPS caused numerous agency closures, 6 months later the total number of US Home Health agencies dropped from 15,018 to 13,018, with a total number of Medicare certified agencies dropping from 10,444 to 7,880. In Illinois alone 71 agencies licensed by the state had closed and 42 additional agencies closed through August 1999.

As of October 1, 2000 Medicare again changed its method of payment to Home Health agencies for skilled care. Prospective Payment System (PPS) is now in place and agencies are now provided with a standard fixed payment for every 60 days of care for a given patient. Payment rates are adjusted to reflect the varying needs of different patients. As home care had historically been practiced, agencies were able and willing to replace family caregivers. Caregivers who did not want to get involved in dressing changes, high tech procedures and other treatments could often count on daily services from a Homecare provider. Homecare services were sometimes used as a way to pacify families of the chronically ill. Now, under PPS, home health providers enlist families, caregivers and other providers to be involved in patient care from the onset. Our goal is to help patients become independent as soon as possible.

As of 1/1/08, we started the revised PPS. One of the main changes with this PPS refinement was that it eliminated the 10 visit therapy requirement for therapy reimbursement. Therapy thresholds are now at 6, 14, and 20 visits with a gradual increase in payments between the 1st and 3rd therapy thresholds. Another main change which was beneficial was that additional case mix diagnosis were added.

The next major health care systems reform is the "Pay for Performance" initiative & is proposed to begin in 2011.

June 2009 Statistics

FAMILY & CLINICAL SERVICES

WIC

Active WIC Clients.....	865
WIC Services.....	312
Breast Feeding Women.....	29
Breast Feeding Peer Counseling.....	53

Family Case Management

Active Families.....	306
EPSDTs.....	69
Pregnancy Tests.....	6
ASQ:SEs.....	99
Edinburghs.....	36
Denvers.....	99
Home Visits.....	13
APORS Visits.....	5
Healthworks Clients.....	13

Healthy Families Illinois

Families Served.....	47
Home Visits.....	95
Assessments.....	7

Doula

Families Served.....	16
Home Visits.....	40
Doula Assisted Deliveries.....	2

Clinics

By Appointment Only

Tuesdays 8:30-4:30

- Lab Clinic
- Adult and Adolescent Immunizations
- TB testing

Fridays (schedule varies)

- Children's immunizations
- TB
- Lead screening

TPS

Clients.....	9
Graduated High School/GED.....	0

Genetics

Screenings.....	33
Clinics.....	0
Patients Seen In Clinic.....	0
Paternity testing.....	1

Immunizations

Children.....	372
Adult.....	30
Lab Draws.....	23
Adult Injections.....	8

Lead

Lead Screenings.....	45
Active Lead Cases.....	7

Flu

Clinics.....	0
Flu Vaccinations.....	0
Pneumonia Vaccinations.....	2

Diabetes

Diabetes Participants.....	349
New Participants Enrolled.....	5

Smoking Cessation

New Break the Habit Smoking Cessation Clients.....	3
Tobacco Quitline Calls.....	3

Communicable Disease

New Cases.....	1
Cases Closed.....	3

Sexually Transmitted Diseases

STD Cases Received & Reported.....	4
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Tuberculosis

Investigations.....	0
New Latent TB Patients.....	0
New Active Cases.....	0
TB Tests.....	23
TB Screenings.....	10

HOME HEALTH

Number of Current Patients.....	39
Total Served.....	51
Total Number of Visits.....	351
Foot Care.....	40

HOSPICE

Number of Patients.....	16
Number of Volunteers.....	20
Families in Bereavement.....	163

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Food Safety

Inspections.....	18
Re-Inspections.....	0
Spot Checks.....	2
Complaints.....	3
Certifications.....	0
Re-Certifications.....	0
Pre-Openings.....	2

Tanning

Inspections.....	1
Re-Inspections.....	0

Private Sewage

Plan Approvals.....	6
Installations.....	9

Potable Water

Wells Permitted.....	2
Wells Constructed.....	1
Water Samples.....	13
Non-Community.....	1

Complaints

Sewage Complaints.....	1
Nuisance Complaints.....	2
Resolved Complaints.....	2
Referred Complaints.....	0

Wells Sealed.....

Real Estate Surveys.....

Sewage Compliance-

Vandalia Lake.....

West Nile Bird Submission.....

Subdivision Review.....

Rabies Specimen Submission.....