



255 Comet Drive
Centreville, MD 21617
(443) 262-4100
www.compassregionalhospice.org

Frequently Asked Questions about Paying for Hospice Care

NOTE: The information provided in this FAQ applies to payment for hospice services only. Other services provided by Compass Regional Hospice, including room and board fees at Compass Regional Hospice residential and general inpatient centers, are governed by separate and specific policies. For more information about these costs, call 443-262-4100.

Q: What happens if a patient is under-insured or uninsured?

A: Compass Regional Hospice accepts patients who meet the criteria for hospice care regardless of their ability to pay for services. All clinical decisions for services will be made based on the needs of the patient and family using agency approved policies and guidelines.

Q: Can Medicare or Medicaid be used to cover hospice care?

A: Yes, patients who are eligible for Medicare or Medicaid can elect to use these forms of coverage for hospice care when they are admitted to Compass Regional Hospice. The payment received from these reimbursement sources will be considered payment in full for hospice care.

Q: How does Compass Regional Hospice bill private insurance companies for hospice care?

A: Compass Regional hospice bills private insurance providers directly on a monthly basis for patients with private insurance or other third-party payers. Patients are responsible for charges not paid by their insurance provider. However, a sliding scale payment option, based on the State of Maryland Poverty Scale, is available to qualifying patients. A financial assessment will be reviewed by the Compass Regional Hospice finance team to determine that patient's eligibility for sliding scale fees.

Q: What if a patient is uninsured or their private insurance does not cover hospice care?

A: Patients who are uninsured or do not have a hospice benefit will be responsible for paying for services provided by Compass Regional Hospice. A cost estimate will be provided to patients and families before services are provided. At the request of the patient or a family member,



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Compass Regional Hospice will access the patient's financial status to determine that patient's eligibility for sliding scale fees.

Q: What does Compass Regional Hospice look for when doing a financial assessment of a patient's eligibility to pay for hospice services?

A: When determining a patient's ability to pay for hospice care Compass Regional Hospice looks at a patient's

- level and continuity of monthly income
- debt versus assets
- presence of life insurance

Q: Who can I talk to for more information about paying for hospice care?

A: Call 443-262-1000 and ask for the Billing Department. A member of our finance team will assist you with answers to your questions about how to pay for hospice care.