

Helpful Resources for Hospice Management

In today's busy environment it is not always easy to find the time to do the research necessary to help us with our jobs. To that end, this section is intended to assist in pointing you in the right direction to assist in answering some of the more difficult questions that arise on a day-to-day basis.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Here you will find links to Medicare manuals and transmittals, coding and billing resources, as well as State Medicaid Manual.
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/hospice.asp>
 - Here are CMS' program issuances, day-to-day operating instructions, policies, and procedures that are based on statutes, regulations, guidelines, models, and directives. The CMS program components, providers, contractors, Medicare Advantage organizations and state survey agencies use the IOMs to administer CMS programs. They are also a good source of Medicare and Medicaid information for the general public.
<https://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp>
 - The State Operations Manual.
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/som107ap_m_hospice.pdf
- The Medicare contractor for hospices services in Iowa is Cahaba Government Benefit Administrators®, LLC (also referred to as Cahaba GBA). As a **Medicare Regional Home Health Intermediary (RHHI)**, they process claims for services provided by home health and hospice providers for 16 states including Iowa.
<https://www.cahabagba.com/>
 - Medicare Part A Newline.
https://www.cahabagba.com/part_a/education_and_outreach/newsletter/index.htm
 - The Medicare Hospice Coverage Guidelines and Hospice Quick Reference Tools that provide information to help you understand the Medicare benefit and how Cahaba GBA, LLC processes your claims.
<https://www.cahabagba.com/rhhi/education/materials/index.htm>
- The Iowa Department of Human Services Web site provides information on Medicaid, including the Medicaid Policy Manual for hospice providers.
<http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/PolicyManualPages/MedProvider.htm>
- The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise.
<http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs2005/ime/index.html>
- The Department of Inspections and Appeals, Health Facilities Division Web site lists providers that are certified and licensed by the Department, best practices,

and informational documents.

https://dia-hfd.iowa.gov/DIA_HFD/Process.do

- Licensure in Iowa is voluntary. The standards for licensure are in Iowa Administrative Code.
<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/Rules/2002/iac/481iac/48153/48153.pdf>
- The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) is an organization of physicians and other medical professionals dedicated to excellence in and advancement of palliative medicine.
<http://www.aahpm.org/>
- For physician fast facts- all kinds of quick information related to caring for patients at end of life that can be shared with physicians. The one page fast facts are up-to-date and evidence based.
www.eperc.mcw.edu/index.htm
- HPNA has become the nationally recognized organization providing resources and support for advanced practice nurses, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and nursing assistants who care for people with life limiting and terminal illness.
<http://www.hpna.org/>
- The Council on Social Work Education provides a list of accredited social work degree programs.
<http://www.cswe.org/CSWE/>
- The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) provides health care professionals with the tools, training, and technical assistance necessary to start and sustain successful palliative care programs in hospitals and other health care settings.
<http://www.capc.org>
- The Independent Sector is a resource for calculating the value of volunteer time.
http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html
- Interim Hospice Interpretive Guidelines (January 2009)
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/downloads/SCLetter09-19.pdf>
- Hospice State Operations Manual (SOM) Revisions, Chapter 2: sections 2080-2089 (September 2009)
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/downloads/SCLetter09_58.pdf