



















Understanding the Hospice Care Benefit

Did you know Hospice care is covered 100% by Medicare? For your entire working life, you've paid towards Medicare. Get back what you put in! Learn what is 100% covered under the hospice benefit:











	Home Health	Hospice
Medications*		
Medical Equipment**		
Physician		
Skilled Nursing		
Therapy		
Nurse Aide		
Social Worker Services		
Services to Nursing Facilities		
Respite Care***		

* Medications related to the terminal condition

** Medical Equipment examples include, but not limited to: hospital-grade bed, wheelchair, and walker

*** Respite Care may be used when a caregiver, usually a family member, needs a break from providing care to their loved ones. Care is then transferred to a facility that is able to provide the care the patient needs during this time. The hospice benefit pays for this care.

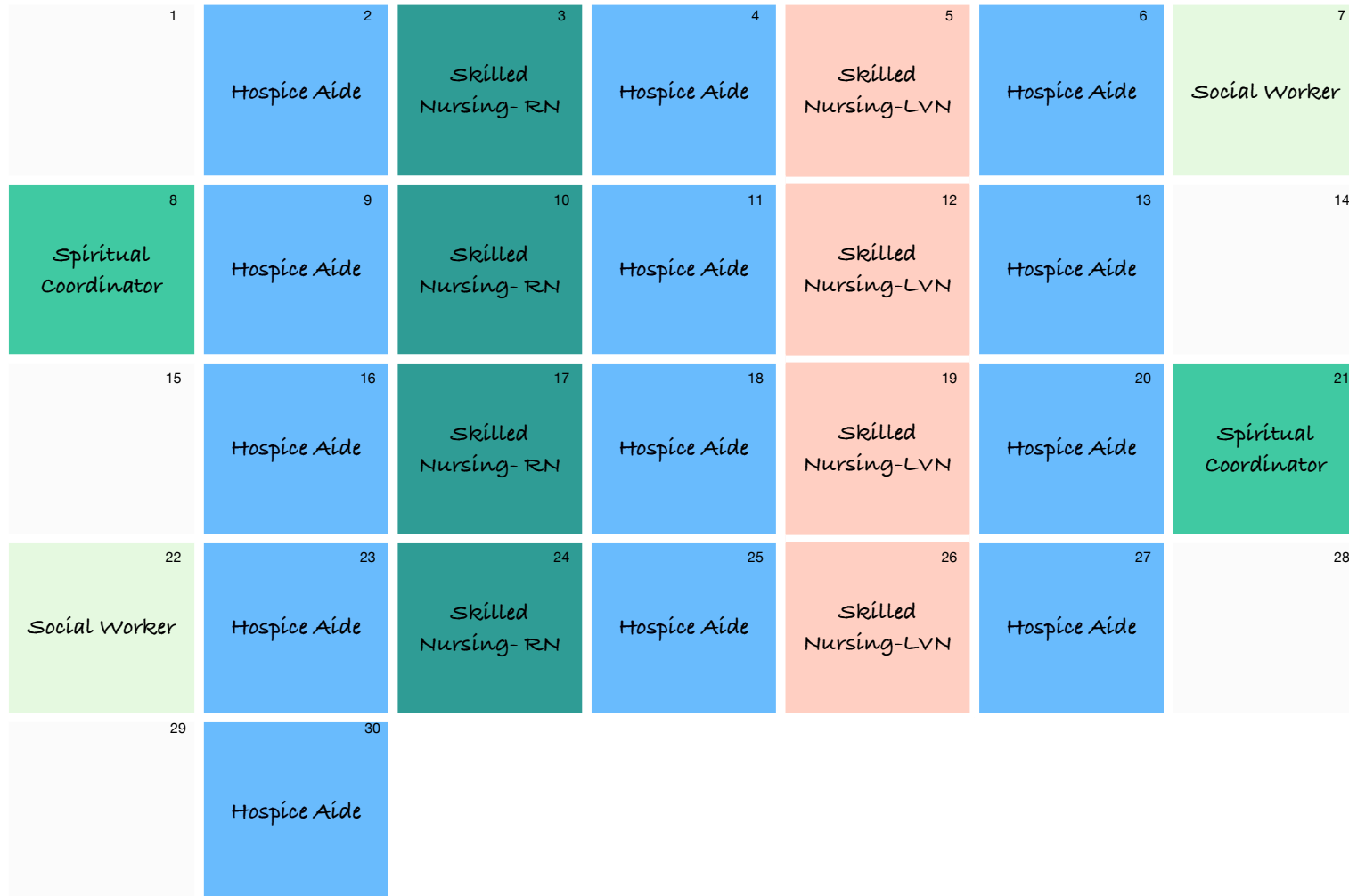
Let's face it, there's a major misconception of what people think of hospice- a place to go to die. This is far from the truth. Hospice care encompasses more services, provides more activities of daily life, and more clinical care than any other home care service. Don't fall into the trap of mis-categorizing hospice and fail to use the care you deserve. Learn the care you get under the hospice care benefit:

	Home Health	Hospice
Medical Director		
Skilled Nursing*		
Therapists*		
Nurse Aide*		
Social Worker		
Spiritual Coordinator		

* For home health, patients will get skilled nursing and/or therapy care (PT,OT,ST) visits. Frequencies are based on the needs of the patient and should decrease the longer home health is provided. A nurse aide is more rare, but may be provided only if skilled nursing is involved and frequencies vary. For hospice, skilled nursing, aides, social workers, and spiritual coordinators are most always provided on a consistent and may be on a more frequent basis.

Example Care Month of the Hospice Benefit

The number of visits you get during the hospice benefit exceeds many other home care services, and it's all paid for! Let's visualize how this could look in a given month:



Surprising isn't it? You clearly see hospice aide visits are 3x/week- that is A LOT of mobilizing your loved one to get out of bed to a chair or shower (if tolerated)! Compare this to home health PT visit frequency, and you realize hospice may provide more touch-points and consistent physical activity. Skilled nursing is 2x/week, with half of this time from an RN. Social Workers and Spiritual Coordinators visit 1-2x/month. All these frequencies are normal, but easily may be adjusted by your request. Now that is a lot of hands-on care!

