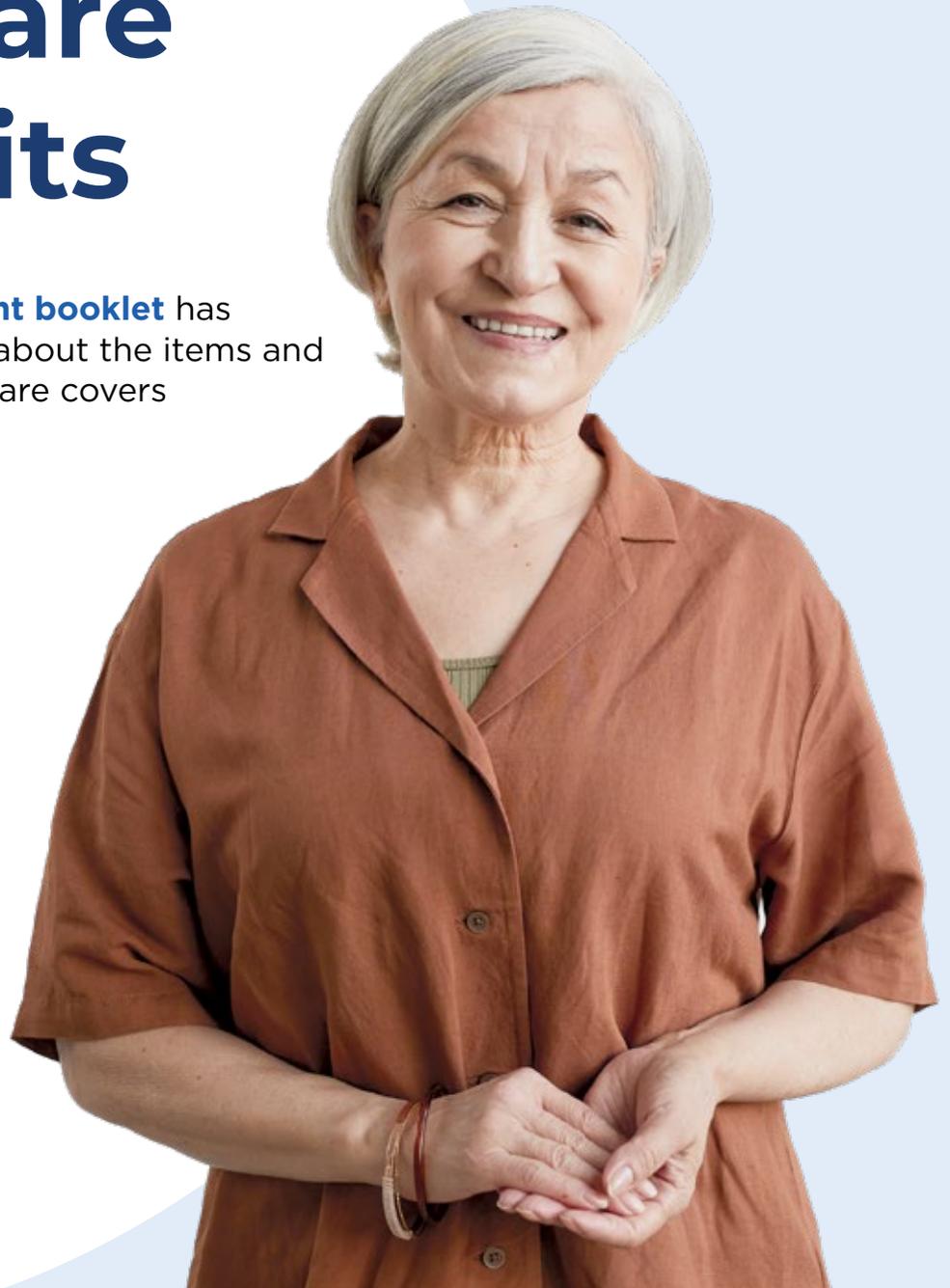


2024

# Your Medicare Benefits

This **official government booklet** has important information about the items and services Original Medicare covers

[Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov)



Medicare

# About This Booklet

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This booklet describes many, but not all, of the health care items and services that Original Medicare (Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance)) covers. It includes information on how and when you can get these benefits and how much you'll pay.

If you have a question about a test, item, or service that isn't listed in this booklet, visit [Medicare.gov/coverage](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

This booklet primarily describes coverage under Original Medicare. If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan, another Medicare health plan, or both Medicare and Medicaid:

- You may be able to get other services and supplies that Original Medicare doesn't cover.
- Your costs may be different.
- Coverage rules (like how often you can get an item or service) might be different.

For more information, contact your plan or state Medicaid agency.





## Section 1:

# Understanding Medicare Part A & Part B

## What are the parts of Original Medicare?

### **Part A (Hospital Insurance) helps cover:**

- Inpatient hospital care
- Skilled nursing facility care
- Hospice care
- Home health care

## What are the parts of Original Medicare? (continued)

### **Part B (Medical Insurance) helps cover:**

- Services from doctors and other health care providers
- Outpatient care
- Home health care
- Durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other equipment)
- Many preventive services (like screenings, shots or vaccines, and yearly “Wellness” visits)

### **What’s the Part A deductible?**

In 2024, you’ll pay a \$1,632 deductible for each inpatient hospital benefit period (defined on page 3). The Part A deductible covers your share of costs for the first 60 days of Medicare-covered inpatient hospital care in a benefit period. There’s no limit to the number of benefit periods you can have in a year. This means you may pay the Part A deductible more than once in a year.

### **What’s the Part B deductible?**

In 2024, you pay a yearly \$240 deductible for Part B-covered services and supplies before Medicare begins to pay its share, depending on the service or supply.

### **What’s assignment and why is it important?**

Assignment is an agreement by your doctor, provider, or supplier to be paid directly by Medicare, to accept the payment amount Medicare approves for the covered service, and not to bill you for any more than the Medicare deductible and coinsurance.

Depending on the service or supply, the amount you pay may be higher if the doctor, provider, or other supplier doesn’t accept assignment. Doctors and other health care providers who don’t accept assignment can charge you 15% over the Medicare-approved payment amount for most Part B-covered services. This is called the “limiting charge.” The limiting charge only applies to certain services and doesn’t apply to some supplies and durable medical equipment (DME). When getting certain supplies and DME, Medicare will only pay for them if you get them from Medicare-enrolled suppliers, no matter who submits the claim (you or your supplier).

## What if my doctor recommends a service more often than Medicare covers it?

Your doctor or other health care provider may recommend you get services more often than Medicare covers. Or, they may recommend services that Medicare doesn't cover. If this happens, you may have to pay some or all of the costs out of pocket. It's important to ask questions, so you understand why your health care provider is recommending certain services and if Medicare will pay for them.

## What if I disagree with a coverage or payment decision?

You have the right to appeal. For more information on how to file an appeal, visit [Medicare.gov/claims-appeals/how-do-i-file-an-appeal](https://www.Medicare.gov/claims-appeals/how-do-i-file-an-appeal).

## What if an item or service isn't listed in this booklet, or I need more information?

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage) and type the item or service into the search box for more information. Or, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.



### Preventive services

Preventive services help you stay healthy. Throughout this booklet, an apple icon is next to preventive services that Medicare covers. Talk with your doctor about which preventive services are right for you.

## Helpful terms to understand as you read this booklet:

### Benefit period:

The way that Part A measures your use of hospital and skilled nursing facility (SNF) services. A benefit period begins the day you're admitted as an inpatient in a hospital or SNF. The benefit period ends after you leave the hospital or SNF, and you haven't gotten any additional inpatient hospital care (or skilled care in a SNF) for 60 days in a row. If you go into a hospital or SNF after one benefit period has ended, a new one begins. You must pay the Part A inpatient hospital deductible for each benefit period. There's no limit to the number of benefit periods.

### Coinsurance:

An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for benefits after you pay any deductibles. Coinsurance is usually a percentage (for example, 20%).

## Helpful terms to understand as you read this booklet: (continued)

### **Copayment:**

An amount you may be required to pay as your share of the cost for benefits after you pay any deductibles. A copayment is usually a fixed amount, like \$30.

### **Deductible:**

The amount you must pay for health care or prescriptions before Original Medicare, your Medicare Advantage Plan, your Medicare drug plan, or your other insurance begins to pay.

### **Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C):**

A type of Medicare health plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare. Medicare Advantage Plans provide all of your Part A and Part B benefits, with a few exclusions, for example, certain aspects of clinical trials which are covered by Original Medicare even though you're still in the plan. Medicare Advantage Plans include:

- Health Maintenance Organizations
- Preferred Provider Organizations
- Private Fee-for-Service Plans
- Special Needs Plans
- Medicare Medical Savings Account Plans

If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan:

- Most Medicare services are covered through the plan
- Most Medicare services aren't paid for by Original Medicare
- Most Medicare Advantage Plans offer prescription drug coverage

### **Medicare drug plan (Part D):**

Separate prescription drug coverage from Medicare-approved private plans.

### **Medicare-approved amount:**

The payment amount that Original Medicare sets for a covered service or item. When your provider accepts assignment, Medicare pays its share of this amount and you pay your share.



## Section 2:

# Items & Services



## Abdominal aortic aneurysm screenings

Part B covers an abdominal aortic aneurysm screening ultrasound if you're at risk. You're considered at risk if you have a family history of abdominal aortic aneurysms, or you're a man 65–75 and have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your lifetime.

### **How often**

Once in a lifetime.

### **Costs**

You pay nothing for this screening if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

## Abdominal aortic aneurysm screenings (continued)

### Things to know

You must get a referral from your health care provider.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/abdominal-aortic-aneurysm-screenings](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/abdominal-aortic-aneurysm-screenings).

## Acupuncture

Acupuncture is a technique where providers stimulate specific points on the body, most often by inserting thin needles through the skin. Medicare covers up to 12 acupuncture treatments in 90 days for chronic low back pain.

Medicare covers an additional 8 sessions if you show improvement. If you aren't showing improvement, Medicare won't cover your additional treatments and you'll pay 100% of the costs if you continue getting them. You can get a maximum of 20 acupuncture treatments in a 12-month period.

Not all providers can give acupuncture, and Medicare can't pay Licensed Acupuncturists directly for their services. Medicare also doesn't cover acupuncture (including dry needling) for any condition other than chronic low back pain.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

Chronic low back pain:

- Lasts 12 weeks or longer
- Has no known cause (for example, it's not related to cancer that has spread, or an inflammatory or infectious disease)
- Isn't associated with surgery or pregnancy

You must get acupuncture from a doctor or another health care provider (like a nurse practitioner or physician assistant) who has both of these:

- A masters or doctoral level degree in acupuncture or Oriental Medicine from a school accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
- A current, full, active, and unrestricted license to practice acupuncture in the state where you're getting care.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/acupuncture](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/acupuncture).

## Advance care planning

Part B covers voluntary advance care planning as part of your yearly preventive “Wellness” visit. Go to “Preventive visits” on pages 90–92 for more information. Medicare may also cover this service as part of your medical treatment.

Advance care planning involves discussing and preparing for care you would get in the future if you need help making decisions for yourself. As part of advance care planning, you may choose to complete an advance directive. This is an important legal document that records your wishes about medical treatment in the future, if you can’t make decisions about your care.

Advance directives include 2 parts:

1. Your **health care proxy** (sometimes called “durable power of attorney”) names someone you trust to make decisions about your health if you can’t.
2. Your **living will** describes which treatment(s) you want if your life is threatened, including dialysis, breathing machines, resuscitation, and tube feeding. It also states if you want your organs or tissues donated after you die.

You can talk about an advance directive with an attorney or your health care provider, and they can help you fill out the forms. You can update your advance directive at any time.

### Costs

You pay nothing for this planning if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment and it’s part of your yearly “Wellness” visit. If you get it as part of your medical treatment, the Part B deductible and coinsurance apply.

### Things to know

Consider carefully who you want to speak for you and what direction you want to give. You have the right to carry out your plans as you choose without discrimination based on your age or disability. For help with advance directives, visit the Eldercare Locator at [eldercare.acl.gov](https://eldercare.acl.gov). You can also contact your state health department.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/advance-care-planning](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/advance-care-planning).



## Alcohol misuse screenings & counseling

Part B covers an alcohol misuse screening for adults (including pregnant women) who use alcohol, but don't meet the medical criteria for alcohol dependency.

### How often

Medicare covers an alcohol misuse screening once each year. If your primary care doctor or other health care provider determines you're misusing alcohol, you can also get up to 4 brief, face-to-face counseling sessions each year (if you're competent and alert during counseling).

### Costs

You pay nothing if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### Things to know

You must get the counseling in a primary care setting (like a doctor's office).

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/alcohol-misuse-screenings-counseling](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/alcohol-misuse-screenings-counseling).

## Ambulance services

Part B covers ground ambulance transportation when traveling in any other vehicle could endanger your health, and you need medically necessary services from one of the following:

- A hospital
- A critical access hospital
- A rural emergency hospital
- A skilled nursing facility

Medicare may pay for emergency ambulance transportation in an airplane or helicopter if you need immediate and rapid transport that ground transportation can't provide.

In some cases, Medicare may pay for limited, medically necessary, non-emergency ambulance transportation if you have a written order from your doctor or other health care provider that says the transportation is medically necessary. For example, someone with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) may need medically necessary ambulance transport to and from an ESRD facility.

## Ambulance services (continued)

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

- If using other transportation could endanger your health, Medicare will only cover ambulance services to the nearest appropriate medical facility that's able to give you the care you need.
- The ambulance company must give you an "Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN)" when both of these apply:
  - You get ambulance services in a non-emergency situation.
  - The ambulance company believes that Medicare may not pay for your specific ambulance service.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/ambulance-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/ambulance-services).

## Ambulatory surgical centers

Ambulatory surgical centers are outpatient facilities that perform surgical procedures. In most cases, ambulatory surgical centers release patients within 24 hours. Part B covers facility fees related to approved surgical procedures you get in these centers.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount to both the ambulatory surgical center and the doctor(s) who treats you. You pay nothing for certain preventive services (like a screening colonoscopy) if the doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment. However, you may have to pay other costs associated with the preventive services. For example, if your health care provider removes a polyp during a screening colonoscopy, you may have to pay 15% of the Medicare-approved amount. You also pay all facility fees for non-covered procedures you get in ambulatory surgical centers.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/ambulatory-surgical-centers](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/ambulatory-surgical-centers).
- To get cost estimates for outpatient surgical procedures in certain settings, visit [Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup](https://www.Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup).

## Anesthesia

Part A covers anesthesia services you get as a hospital inpatient. Part B covers anesthesia services you get as an outpatient in a hospital or a patient in a freestanding ambulatory surgical center.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for the anesthesia services you get from a doctor or certified registered nurse anesthetist. The anesthesia service must be associated with the underlying medical or surgical service, and you may have to pay an additional copayment to the facility.
- For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/anesthesia](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/anesthesia).

## Artificial eyes & limbs

Part B covers medically necessary artificial eyes and limbs when a Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/artificial-eyes-limbs](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/artificial-eyes-limbs).

## Bariatric surgery

Medicare covers some bariatric surgical procedures (like gastric bypass surgery and laparoscopic banding surgery), when you meet certain conditions related to morbid obesity.

### Costs

- For surgeries or procedures, it's hard to predict your costs in advance. This is because you won't know what services you need until you meet with your provider. If you need weight loss surgery or a procedure, you may be able to estimate how much you'll have to pay. For help estimating costs on outpatient surgical procedures in certain settings, visit [Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup](https://www.medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup).
- Medicare doesn't cover your transportation costs to get to a bariatric surgery center.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/bariatric-surgery](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/bariatric-surgery).

 **Barium enemas (screening)**

Barium enemas are X-ray exams that can detect changes or abnormalities in your large intestine (colon). Part B covers these exams to help find precancerous growths or find colon cancer early, when treatment is most effective.

**How often**

Medicare covers barium enemas as a screening test once every 48 months if you're 45 or older when your doctor or other health care provider uses it instead of a flexible sigmoidoscopy or screening colonoscopy. If you're at high risk for colorectal cancer and are 45 or older, Medicare covers this test once every 24 months.

**Costs**

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor's services. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay the hospital a copayment. The Part B deductible doesn't apply.

**More information**

- Go to “Colorectal cancer screenings” on page 23.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/barium-enemas](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/barium-enemas).

**Behavioral health integration services**

If you have a behavioral health condition (like depression, anxiety, or another mental health condition), Medicare may pay your doctor or other health care provider to help manage your care for that condition. Some health care providers may offer care management services using the Psychiatric Collaborative Care Model.

The Psychiatric Collaborative Care Model is a set of integrated behavioral health services, such as:

- Care planning for behavioral health conditions
- Ongoing assessment of your condition
- Medication support
- Counseling
- Other treatments your provider recommends

Your health care provider will ask you to sign an agreement for you to get this set of services on a monthly basis.

## Behavioral health integration services (continued)

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

- Go to “Mental health care” on pages 68-72.
- Go to “Mental health & substance use disorder services” on page 73.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/behavioral-health-integration-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/behavioral-health-integration-services).

## Blood

Part A covers blood you get as a hospital inpatient. Part B covers blood you get as a hospital outpatient.

### Costs

If your health care provider gets blood from a blood bank at no charge, you won't have to pay for it or replace it. If your provider has to buy blood for you, you must either pay the provider costs for the first 3 units of blood you get in a calendar year, or you or someone else can donate the blood.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/blood](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/blood).

## Blood processing & handling

Hospitals usually charge for blood processing and handling for each unit of blood you get, whether the blood is donated or purchased. Part A covers this service if you're an inpatient. Part B covers this service if you're an outpatient.

### Costs

After you meet the Part A deductible, there's no copayment for blood you get as an inpatient. After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay a copayment for the blood processing and handling services for each unit of blood you get as a hospital outpatient.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-processing-handling](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-processing-handling).



## Blood-based biomarker screening tests for colorectal cancer

Blood-based biomarker tests can help detect colorectal cancer early, when treatment is most effective. Medicare covers a blood-based biomarker screening test if you meet all of these conditions:

- You're between 45–85.
- You show no symptoms of colorectal disease (including, but not limited to, lower gastrointestinal pain, blood in stool, or positive guaiac fecal occult blood test or fecal immunochemical test).
- You're at average risk for developing colorectal cancer, meaning:
  - You have no personal history of adenomatous polyps, colorectal cancer, or inflammatory bowel disease (including Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis).
  - You have no family history of colorectal cancers or adenomatous polyps, familial adenomatous polyposis, or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer.

### How often

Medicare covers a blood-based biomarker screening test for colorectal cancer (if available) once every 3 years.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the test if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/colorectal-cancer-blood-based-biomarker-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/colorectal-cancer-blood-based-biomarker-screenings).



## Bone mass measurements

A bone mass measurement can help find out if you're at risk for broken bones. Part B covers this test if you meet one or more of these conditions:

- You're a woman whose doctor or other health care provider determines you're estrogen-deficient and at risk for osteoporosis, based on your medical history and other findings.
- Your X-rays show possible osteoporosis, osteopenia, or vertebral fractures.
- You're taking prednisone or steroid-type drugs or are planning to begin this treatment.
- You've been diagnosed with primary hyperparathyroidism.
- You're being monitored to find out if your osteoporosis drug therapy is working.

## Bone mass measurements (continued)

### How often

Once every 24 months (or more often, if medically necessary).

### Costs

You pay nothing for this test if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/bone-mass-measurements](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/bone-mass-measurements).

## Braces (arm, leg, back, & neck)

Part B covers arm, leg, back, and neck braces when medically necessary and when a Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/braces-arm-leg-back-neck](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/braces-arm-leg-back-neck).

## Breast cancer screenings

Go to “Mammograms” on pages 65–66.

## Breast prostheses

Part A covers surgically implanted breast prostheses after a mastectomy if the surgery takes place in an inpatient setting. Part B covers the surgery if it takes place in an outpatient setting. Part B also covers some external breast prostheses (including a post-surgical bra) after a mastectomy.

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor’s services and the external breast prostheses. The Part B deductible applies.

### More information

- Go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57.
- Go to “Outpatient hospital services” on page 81.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/breast-prostheses](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/breast-prostheses).

## Canes

Part B covers canes as durable medical equipment (DME). Medicare doesn't cover white canes for the blind.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/canes](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/canes).

## Cardiac rehabilitation programs

Cardiac rehabilitation programs include exercise, education, and counseling if you've experienced a heart attack, heart failure, or certain other heart problems. Part B covers these comprehensive programs if you've had at least one of these conditions:

- A heart attack in the last 12 months
- Coronary artery bypass surgery
- Current stable angina pectoris (chest pain)
- A heart valve repair or replacement
- A coronary angioplasty (a medical procedure used to open a blocked artery) or coronary stenting (a procedure used to keep an artery open)
- A heart or heart-lung transplant
- Stable chronic heart failure

Part B covers regular and intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs. Medicare covers these services in a doctor's office or hospital outpatient setting (including a critical access hospital).

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount if you get these services in your doctor's office. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay the hospital a copayment. The Part B deductible applies.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cardiac-rehabilitation](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/cardiac-rehabilitation).



## Cardiovascular behavioral therapy

Cardiovascular behavioral therapy helps lower your risk for cardiovascular disease. Part B covers a cardiovascular behavioral therapy visit with your primary care doctor or other primary care practitioner in a primary care setting (like a doctor's office). During therapy, your primary care practitioner may discuss aspirin use, check your blood pressure, and give you tips on diet and exercise.

### How often

One time each year.

### Costs

You pay nothing if your primary care practitioner accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cardiovascular-behavioral-therapy](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/cardiovascular-behavioral-therapy).



## Cardiovascular disease screenings

Part B covers screenings that help detect cardiovascular disease. These screenings include blood tests for cholesterol, lipid, and triglyceride levels that help detect conditions that may lead to a heart attack or stroke.

### How often

Once every 5 years.

### Costs

You pay nothing for these tests if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cardiovascular-disease-screenings](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/cardiovascular-disease-screenings).

## Caregiver training services

Caregiver training teaches a patient's caregiver the skills they need to help the patient comply with their treatment plan. During the training, the caregiver may learn how to:

- Give medications
- Help with daily tasks
- Move the patient safely
- Communicate effectively with the patient
- Better understand the patient's medical condition(s)
- Provide emotional support
- Give personalized care

## Caregiver training services (continued)

Part B covers caregiver training services for caregivers involved in the treatment of Medicare patients if both of these conditions apply:

- The training focuses on helping the patient meet the health and treatment goals they set with their doctor or other health care provider.
- The patient needs a caregiver’s help for their treatment to succeed.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

- If the patient’s healthcare provider determines that caregiver training is appropriate for the patient’s treatment plan, the caregiver can get individual or group training sessions from the provider without the patient present.
- The patient’s caregiver(s) can get this training from Medicare providers, including:
  - Doctors
  - Nurse practitioners
  - Clinical nurse specialists
  - Certified nurse-midwives
  - Physician assistants
  - Clinical psychologists
  - Therapists (including physical and occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists)

### More information

- Go to “Chronic care management services” on page 20.
- Go to “Cognitive assessment & care plan services” on pages 21–22.
- Go to “Home infusion therapy services, equipment, & supplies” on pages 52–53.
- Go to “Hospice care” on pages 53–54.
- Go to “Transitional care management services” on page 108.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/caregiver-training-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/caregiver-training-services).

## Cataract surgery

Cataract surgery removes a cloudy natural lens from your eye and, in most cases, replaces it with a clear artificial lens. Medicare may cover cataract surgery that implants conventional intraocular lenses, depending on where you live.

Medicare doesn’t usually cover eyeglasses or contact lenses. However, Part B covers one pair of eyeglasses with standard frames (or one set of contact lenses) after each cataract surgery that implants an intraocular lens.

## Cataract surgery (continued)

### Costs

- If you get covered cataract surgery in a hospital outpatient setting or ambulatory surgical center, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount to both the facility and the doctor who performs your surgery. The Part B deductible applies.
- If you get covered cataract surgery in a doctor's office, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for both the intraocular lens and the surgery to implant it. The Part B deductible applies.

### Things to know

If Medicare covers cataract surgery in your area, you can get it using traditional surgical techniques or lasers.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/cataract-surgery](https://www.Medicare.gov/cataract-surgery).



## Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings

Part B covers Pap tests and pelvic exams to check for cervical and vaginal cancers. As part of the pelvic exam, Medicare also covers a clinical breast exam to check for breast cancer.

### How often

Medicare covers these screening tests once every 24 months in most cases. If you're at high risk for cervical or vaginal cancer, or if you're of child-bearing age and had an abnormal Pap test in the past 36 months, Medicare covers these screening tests once every 12 months.

Part B also covers Human Papillomavirus (HPV) tests (as part of a Pap test) once every 5 years if you're 30–65 and don't have HPV symptoms.

### Costs

If your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment, you pay nothing for:

- The lab Pap test
- The lab HPV test with the Pap test
- The Pap test specimen collection
- The pelvic and breast exams

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cervical-vaginal-cancer-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/cervical-vaginal-cancer-screenings).

## Chemotherapy

Medicare covers chemotherapy if you have cancer. Part A covers it if you're a hospital inpatient. Part B covers it if you're a hospital outpatient or get services in a doctor's office or freestanding clinic.

### Costs

- If you get Part B-covered chemotherapy in a hospital outpatient setting, you pay a copayment. For chemotherapy given in a doctor's office or freestanding clinic, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you meet the Part B deductible.
- For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/chemotherapy](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/chemotherapy).

## Children's kidney services

Medicare covers dialysis and kidney transplants for children who qualify for Medicare.

### More information

- Dialysis: Go to "Dialysis (children)" on page 36.
- Kidney transplants: Go to "Kidney transplants (children)" on pages 61–62.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/basics/children-and-end-stage-renal-disease](https://www.medicare.gov/basics/children-and-end-stage-renal-disease).

## Chiropractic services

Part B covers manual manipulation of the spine by a chiropractor to correct a vertebral subluxation (when the spinal joints fail to move properly, but the contact between the joints remains intact).

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

Medicare doesn't cover other services or tests a chiropractor orders, including X-rays, massage therapy, and acupuncture (unless the acupuncture is for the treatment of chronic low back pain).

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/chiropractic-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/chiropractic-services).

## Chronic care management services

If you have 2 or more serious chronic conditions (like arthritis or diabetes) that you expect to last at least a year, Medicare may pay for a health care provider's help to manage your care for those conditions.

### Costs

You pay a monthly fee, and the Part B deductible and coinsurance apply. If you have supplemental insurance or another type of coverage, including Medicaid, it may help cover the monthly fee.

### Things to know

- Chronic care management includes a comprehensive care plan that lists your health problems and goals, other providers, medications, community services you have and need, and other information about your health. It also explains the care you need and how your providers will coordinate it. Your health care provider will ask you to sign an agreement for you to get this set of services on a monthly basis.
- If you agree to get these services, your provider will prepare the care plan for you or your caregiver, help you with medication management, provide 24/7 access for urgent care needs, give you support when you go from one health care setting to another, review your medicines and how you take them, and help you with other chronic care needs.
- To get started, ask your health care providers if they offer chronic care management services.

### More information

- Go to “Caregiver training services” on pages 16–17.
- Go to “Principal illness navigation services” on page 93.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/chronic-care-management-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/chronic-care-management-services).

## Chronic pain management & treatment services

Part B covers monthly services for people living with chronic pain (persistent or recurring pain lasting longer than 3 months). Services may include pain assessment, medication management, and care coordination and planning.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/chronic-pain-management-treatment-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/chronic-pain-management-treatment-services).

## Clinical laboratory tests

Part B covers medically necessary clinical diagnostic laboratory tests when your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them. These tests include certain blood tests, urinalysis, tests on tissue specimens, and some screening tests.

### Costs

You usually pay nothing for Medicare-approved clinical diagnostic laboratory tests.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/clinical-laboratory-tests](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/clinical-laboratory-tests).

## Clinical research studies

Clinical research studies test different types of medical care (including new treatments) to find out how well they work and if they're safe. For example, a clinical research study might test how well a new cancer drug works.

For certain qualifying clinical research studies, Part A and/or Part B cover some costs, like office visits and tests.

### Costs

You may pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount, depending on the treatment you get. The Part B deductible may apply.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/clinical-research-studies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/clinical-research-studies).

## Cognitive assessment & care plan services

Part B covers a separate visit with a doctor or health care provider to fully review your cognitive function, establish or confirm a diagnosis like dementia or Alzheimer's disease, and develop a care plan. Your health care provider might also give you a cognitive assessment to look for signs of dementia when you go for other visits, including your yearly preventive "Wellness" visit. Go to "Preventive visits" on pages 90–92 for more information.

Signs of cognitive impairment may include trouble remembering, learning new things, concentrating, managing finances, or making decisions about your everyday life. Conditions like depression, anxiety, and delirium can also cause confusion, so it's important to understand why you may be having symptoms.

## Cognitive assessment & care plan services (continued)

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

You can bring someone with you (like a spouse, friend, or caregiver) to help listen to information and answer questions. During a cognitive assessment, your health care provider may:

- Perform an exam, talk with you about your medical history, and review your medications.
- Identify your social supports, including care that your usual caregiver can provide.
- Create a care plan to help address and manage your symptoms.
- Help you develop or update your advance care plan.
- Refer you to a specialist, if needed.
- Help you understand more about community resources, like rehabilitation services, adult day health programs, and support groups.

### More information

- Go to “Caregiver training services” on pages 16–17.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cognitive-assessment-care-plan-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/cognitive-assessment-care-plan-services).



## Colonoscopies (screening)

Medicare covers screening colonoscopies.

### How often

Medicare covers this screening test once every 24 months if you’re at high risk for colorectal cancer. If you aren’t at high risk, Medicare covers the test once every 120 months, or 48 months after a previous flexible sigmoidoscopy. There’s no minimum age requirement.

If you initially have a non-invasive stool-based screening test (fecal occult blood tests or multi-target stool DNA test) and get a positive result, Medicare also covers a follow-up colonoscopy as a screening test.

## Colonoscopies (screening) (continued)

### Costs

- If your health care provider accepts assignment, you pay nothing for the screening test(s).
- If your health care provider finds and removes a polyp or other tissue during the colonoscopy, you pay 15% of the Medicare-approved amount for your provider's services. In a hospital outpatient setting or ambulatory surgical center, you also pay the facility a 15% coinsurance. The Part B deductible doesn't apply.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/colonoscopies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/colonoscopies).



## Colorectal cancer screenings

Colorectal cancer screenings help find precancerous growths or find cancer early, when treatment is most effective. Part B may cover one or more of these screening tests:

- Barium enemas (screening): Go to page 11.
- Blood-based biomarker screening tests for colorectal cancer: Go to page 13.
- Colonoscopies (screening): Go to pages 22–23.
- Fecal occult blood tests (screening): Go to page 44.
- Flexible sigmoidoscopy screenings: Go to page 45.
- Multi-target stool DNA tests: Go to page 74.

## Commode chairs

Part B covers commode chairs as durable medical equipment (DME) when your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them for use in your home if you're confined to your bedroom.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/commode-chairs](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/commode-chairs).

## Community health integration services

If your doctor or other health care provider gives you a social determinants of health risk assessment, they may find that social factors (like limited access to food or your living environment) are impacting your health or access to care. In these cases, Part B covers community health integration services to address your needs and help your health care provider diagnose or treat your medical conditions. Some community health integration services include:

## Community health integration services (continued)

- An assessment to better understand your life story
- Care coordination
- Health education
- Patient self-advocacy training
- Health system navigation
- Social and emotional support

You must have an initial office visit with your provider (separate from your yearly “Wellness” visit) before you can start getting community health integration services. After your initial visit, you can get these services monthly. Your provider or their staff can give you the community health integration services or refer you to other trained personnel (including community health workers) for the services.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

- Go to “Social determinants of health risk assessment” on pages 102–103.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/community-health-integration-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/community-health-integration-services).

## Concierge care

Concierge care is when a doctor or group of doctors charges you a membership fee before they’ll see you or accept you into their practice.

Medicare doesn’t cover membership fees for concierge care (also called concierge medicine, retainer-base medicine, boutique medicine, platinum practice, or direct care).

### Costs

You pay 100% of the membership fee for concierge care.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/concierge-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/concierge-care).

## Contact lenses

Go to “Eyeglasses & contact lenses” on page 43.

## Continuous glucose monitors

If you have diabetes, Medicare may cover a continuous glucose monitor if your doctor or other health care provider prescribes it for you and you meet at least one of the following conditions:

- You take insulin.
- You have a history of problematic low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).

## Continuous glucose monitors (continued)

Before your health care provider prescribes a continuous glucose monitor, they must meet with you to evaluate your condition and decide if you qualify for one.

### More information

- Go to “Diabetes services” & “Diabetes supplies” on pages 33–34.
- Go to “Insulin” on pages 58–59.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-continuous-glucose-monitors](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-continuous-glucose-monitors).

## Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) machines

If you meet certain conditions, Part B covers knee CPM machines as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home. For example, if you have knee replacement surgery, Medicare covers CPM devices for up to 21 days for use in your home.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/continuous-passive-motion-cpm-machines](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/continuous-passive-motion-cpm-machines).

## Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices, accessories, & therapy

CPAP therapy is an in-home treatment for people with sleep apnea. Medicare may cover a 3-month trial of CPAP therapy (including devices and accessories) if you’ve been diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea. After the trial period, Medicare may continue to cover CPAP therapy, devices, and accessories if you meet with your doctor or other health care provider in person, and they document in your medical record that you meet certain conditions and the therapy is helping you.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for the machine rental and purchase of related supplies (like masks and tubing).

### Things to know

- If you had a CPAP machine before you got Medicare and you meet certain requirements, Medicare may cover a rental or replacement CPAP machine and/or CPAP accessories.
- Medicare pays the supplier to rent a CPAP machine for 13 months if you’ve been using it without interruption. After Medicare makes rental payments for 13 continuous months, you’ll own the machine.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/continuous-positive-airway-pressure-devices](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/continuous-positive-airway-pressure-devices).

## Cosmetic surgery

Medicare usually doesn't cover cosmetic surgery unless you need it because of accidental injury or to improve the function of a malformed body part. Medicare covers breast reconstruction if you had a mastectomy because of breast cancer. Go to "Breast prostheses" on page 14.

### Costs

You pay 100% for non-covered services, including most cosmetic surgery.

### Things to know

Medicare requires prior authorization before you get these hospital outpatient services that are sometimes (but not always) considered cosmetic:

- **Blepharoplasty**—Surgery on your eyelid to remove "droopy," fatty, or excess tissue.
- **Botulinum toxin injections**—Injections used to treat muscle disorders, like spasms and twitches.
- **Panniculectomy**—Surgery to remove excess skin and tissue from your lower abdomen.
- **Rhinoplasty (or "nose job")**—Surgery to change the shape of your nose.
- **Vein ablation**—Surgery to close off veins.

If your procedure requires prior authorization before Medicare will pay for it, you don't need to do anything. Your provider will send a prior authorization request and documentation to Medicare for approval before performing the procedure. If Medicare approves your prior authorization request, you should only need to pay your deductible and coinsurance.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/cosmetic-surgery](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/cosmetic-surgery).



## Counseling to prevent tobacco use & tobacco-caused disease

Part B covers counseling to help you stop smoking or using tobacco.

### How often

Medicare covers up to 8 counseling sessions in a 12-month period.

### Costs

If your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment, you pay nothing for the counseling sessions.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/counseling-to-prevent-tobacco-use-tobacco-caused-disease](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/counseling-to-prevent-tobacco-use-tobacco-caused-disease).

## COVID-19 antibody tests

Part B covers FDA-authorized COVID-19 antibody tests. These tests check to find out if you've developed an immune response and may not be at immediate risk of COVID-19 reinfection.

### Costs

You pay nothing for these tests when your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them, and you get them from a laboratory (including at a pharmacy, clinic, or doctor's office) or hospital.

### More information

- Other COVID-19 services: go to "COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests" below, "COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments & products" on the next page, and "COVID-19 vaccines" on pages 28–29.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus).
- For more on COVID-19, visit [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

## COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests

Part B covers FDA-authorized COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests that check to find out if you have COVID-19.

### Costs

You usually pay nothing for this diagnostic test when your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders it, and you get it from a laboratory (including at a pharmacy, clinic, or doctor's office) or hospital **that takes Medicare**.

### More information

- Other COVID-19 services: go to "COVID-19 antibody tests" above, "COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments & products" on the next page, and "COVID-19 vaccines" on pages 28–29.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus).
- For more on COVID-19, visit [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

## COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments & products

Part B covers FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments & products if you have COVID-19 symptoms. These treatments and products can help fight the disease and keep you out of the hospital, if you test positive for COVID-19 and have mild to moderate symptoms.

### Costs

You pay nothing for these treatments when you get them from a Medicare provider or supplier. You must meet certain conditions to qualify.

**Note:** Certain monoclonal antibody products can protect you before you're exposed to COVID-19. If you have Part B and your doctor or other health care provider decides this type of product could work for you (like if you have a weakened immune system), you pay nothing for the product when you get it from a Medicare provider or supplier.

### More information

- Other COVID-19 services: go to “COVID-19 antibody tests” on page 27, “COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests” on page 27, and “COVID-19 vaccines” below.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus).
- For more on COVID-19, visit [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).



## COVID-19 vaccines

Part B covers FDA-approved and FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines help reduce the risk of illness from COVID-19 by working with the body's natural defenses to safely develop immunity (protection) against the virus.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the COVID-19 vaccine if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### Things to know

- Bring your red, white, and blue Medicare card with you when you get the vaccine so your health care provider or pharmacy can bill Medicare.
- If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you must use the card from your plan to get your Medicare-covered services. Like other covered services, your plan may require that you get the vaccine from an in-network provider. You pay nothing when you get the vaccine from an in-network provider.

## COVID-19 vaccines (continued)

### More information

- Other COVID-19 services: go to “COVID-19 antibody tests” on page 27, “COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests” on page 27, and “COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments & products” on the previous page.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus).
- For more on COVID-19, visit [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

## Crutches

Part B covers crutches as durable medical equipment (DME).

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/crutches](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/crutches).

## CT scans

Go to “Diagnostic non-laboratory tests” on page 35.

## Defibrillators

Medicare may cover an implantable automatic defibrillator if you’ve been diagnosed with heart failure. Part A covers the surgery to implant a defibrillator in a hospital inpatient setting. Part B covers the surgery if you get it in a hospital outpatient setting.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor’s services. The Part B deductible also applies to the surgery, if you get it in a hospital outpatient setting.
- If you get the surgery in a hospital outpatient setting, you’ll also pay the hospital a copayment. But in most cases, the hospital copayment can’t be more than the Part A hospital stay deductible.
- For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/defibrillators](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/defibrillators).

## Dental services

In most cases, Medicare **doesn't** cover dental services like routine cleanings, fillings, tooth extractions, or items like dentures.

Medicare may cover:

- Some dental services you get when you're admitted as a hospital inpatient for your dental procedure, either because of your underlying medical condition or the severity of the procedure.
- Specific inpatient or outpatient dental services directly related to certain covered medical treatments. In these cases, you must get the dental service because it's linked to the success of the medical treatment you need, like:
  - An oral exam and dental treatment before you get a heart valve replacement or a bone marrow, organ, or kidney transplant.
  - A procedure (like a tooth extraction) to treat a mouth infection before you get cancer treatment services like chemotherapy.
  - Treatment for a complication you experience while getting head and neck cancer treatment services.

### Costs

- You pay 100% for non-covered services, including most dental care.
- For Part B-covered dental services, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you meet the Part B deductible. If you get the covered service in an outpatient hospital or other facility setting, you'll also pay a copayment to the facility.
- For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/dental-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/dental-services).



## Depression screenings

Part B covers depression screenings to find out if you have symptoms of depression.

### How often

Once each year.

### Costs

If your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment, you pay nothing for depression screenings.

### Things to know

You must get the screening in a primary care setting (like a doctor's office) where you can get follow-up treatment and/or referrals.

### More information

- Go to "Behavioral health integration services" on pages 11–12.
- Go to "Mental Health Care" on pages 68–72.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/depression-screening](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/depression-screening).

**If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, call or text 988, the free and confidential Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. You can call and speak with a trained crisis counselor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also connect with a counselor through web chat at [988lifeline.org](https://www.988lifeline.org). Call 911 if you're in an immediate medical crisis.**



## Diabetes screenings

Part B covers blood glucose (blood sugar) laboratory test screenings (including the Hemoglobin A1C test, and other tests with or without a carbohydrate challenge) if your doctor or other health care provider determines you're at risk for developing diabetes. Part B covers these screenings if you have any of these risk factors:

- High blood pressure
- History of abnormal cholesterol and triglyceride levels
- Obesity
- History of high blood sugar

## Diabetes screenings (continued)

Part B also covers these screenings if 2 or more of these conditions apply to you:

- You're 65 or older.
- You're overweight.
- You have a family history of diabetes (parents or siblings).
- You have a history of gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy) or delivery of a baby weighing more than 9 pounds.

### How often

If you qualify to get diabetes screenings, you can get up to 2 each year (within 12 months of your most recent screening).

### Costs

You pay nothing for these screenings if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/diabetes-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/diabetes-screenings).



## Diabetes self-management training

If you've been diagnosed with diabetes, Part B covers outpatient diabetes self-management training to help you cope with and manage your disease. The program may include tips for eating healthy and being active, monitoring blood glucose (blood sugar), taking prescription drugs, and reducing risks. Some patients may also be eligible for medical nutritional therapy services. Go to "Medical nutrition therapy services" on page 66.

Medicare may cover up to 10 hours of initial training—1 hour of individual training and 9 hours of group training. You may also qualify for up to 2 hours of follow-up training each calendar year after the year you got your initial training.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

- To get this training, you must have a written order from your doctor or other health care provider.
- Some exceptions apply if group sessions aren't available in your area, or if your health care provider says you would benefit more from having individual training sessions.

## Diabetes self-management training (continued)

- **If you're in a rural area**, you may be able to get diabetes self-management training services from a provider (like a registered dietitian) virtually through telehealth. Go to “Telehealth” on page 106.

### More information

- Other diabetic services and supplies: Refer to “Diabetes services” and “Diabetes supplies” on the next 2 pages.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/diabetes-self-management-training](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/diabetes-self-management-training).

## Diabetes services

Medicare may cover one or more of these items or services:

- Diabetes self-management training: Go to pages 32–33.
- Eye exams (for diabetes): Go to page 42.
- Foot care (for diabetes): Go to page 46.
- Glaucoma screenings: Go to page 47.
- Medical nutrition therapy services: Go to page 66.

### More information

- Refer to “Diabetes supplies” below for covered supplies.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage).

## Diabetes supplies

Part B covers some diabetes supplies, including:

- Blood glucose (blood sugar) testing meters
- Blood sugar test strips
- Blood sugar control solutions (for checking test strip and monitor accuracy)
- Continuous glucose monitors and related supplies, like sensors
- Lancets and lancet holders
- Insulin and related supplies, like tubing, insertion sets, and pumps
- Therapeutic shoes or inserts

## Diabetes supplies (continued)

### How often

There may be limits on how much or how often you get these supplies. For more information, go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.

### Costs

If your supplier accepts assignment, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you meet the Part B deductible.

### Things to know

If you have Medicare drug coverage (Part D), your plan may cover insulin, certain medical supplies used to inject insulin (like syringes, gauze, and alcohol swabs), disposable pumps, and some oral diabetes drugs. Check with your plan for more information.

### More information

- Covered services: Go to “Diabetes services” on page 33.
- Insulin: Go to pages 58–59.
- Therapeutic shoes or inserts: Go to page 107.
- Blood sugar monitors: Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-sugar-monitors](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-sugar-monitors).
- Blood sugar test strips: Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-sugar-test-strips](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/blood-sugar-test-strips).
- Blood sugar control solutions: Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/glucose-control-solutions](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/glucose-control-solutions).
- Certain continuous glucose monitors and related supplies: Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-continuous-glucose-monitors](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-continuous-glucose-monitors).
- Lancets and lancet holders: Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/lancet-devices-lancets](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/lancet-devices-lancets).

## Diagnostic laboratory tests

Diagnostic laboratory tests look for changes in your health and help your doctor or other health care provider diagnose or rule out a suspected illness or condition. Part B covers medically necessary clinical diagnostic laboratory tests when your Medicare-enrolled health care provider orders them. These tests may include certain blood tests, urinalysis, certain tests on tissue specimens, and some screening tests.

### Costs

You usually pay nothing for Medicare-covered clinical diagnostic laboratory tests.

### Things to know

Medicare also covers some preventive tests and screenings to help prevent or find a medical problem. Go to “Preventive & screening services” on pages 89–90.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/diagnostic-laboratory-tests](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/diagnostic-laboratory-tests).

## Diagnostic non-laboratory tests

Diagnostic non-laboratory tests help your doctor or other health care provider diagnose or rule out a suspected illness or condition. Part B covers these tests (like CT scans, MRIs, EKGs, X-rays, and PET scans) when your Medicare-enrolled provider orders them to treat a medical problem.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount of covered diagnostic non-laboratory tests you get in your doctor’s office or in an independent diagnostic testing facility.
- If you get the test at a hospital as an outpatient, you also pay the hospital a copayment that may be more than 20% of the Medicare-approved amount. In most cases, this amount can’t be more than the Part A hospital stay deductible.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/diagnostic-non-laboratory-tests](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/diagnostic-non-laboratory-tests).

## Dialysis (children)

If your child qualifies for Medicare due to permanent kidney failure, Part A and Part B cover different items and services for children's (pediatric) dialysis.

### If your child is in a hospital:

- Part A covers dialysis treatments.
- Part B covers doctors' services.

### If your child isn't in a hospital, Part B covers these dialysis services:

- Outpatient dialysis treatments (in a Medicare-certified dialysis facility)
- Home dialysis equipment and supplies
- Certain home support services
- Most drugs for outpatient or home dialysis (like an erythropoiesis-stimulating agent to treat anemia)
- Doctors' services
- Other services that are part of dialysis, like laboratory tests
- Dialysis when you travel within the U.S. and use a Medicare-certified facility

### Costs

- Inpatient hospital services: Part A pays for these services after you pay the hospital inpatient deductible.
- Doctors' services: After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.
- Dialysis services: The amount you pay may vary based on your child's age and the type of dialysis they need.
- Transportation services: In most cases, Medicare doesn't pay for transportation to dialysis facilities.

If your child has other insurance, your costs may be different.

### More information

- Go to "Kidney transplants (children)" on pages 61–62.
- Go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-children](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-children).

## Dialysis services & supplies

People with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) have permanent kidney failure that requires dialysis or a kidney transplant. Dialysis is a treatment that cleans the blood when the kidneys don't work. It gets rid of harmful waste, extra salt, and fluids that build up in the body. It also helps control blood pressure and helps the body keep the right amount of fluids.

## Dialysis services & supplies (continued)

Dialysis treatments may help you feel better and live longer, but they aren't a cure for permanent kidney failure. Generally, Medicare covers 3 hemodialysis (or equivalent peritoneal dialysis) treatments per week if you have ESRD.

If you have Original Medicare, you need Part A, Part B, and possibly Medicare drug coverage (Part D) to get the full benefits available under Medicare for people with ESRD. Part A covers inpatient dialysis treatments when you're in a hospital. Go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56-57. Part B helps cover:

- Outpatient dialysis treatments & doctors' services (like ESRD-related laboratory tests) you get in a Medicare-certified dialysis facility or your home.
- Home dialysis training, if you're a candidate for home dialysis. Part B covers training for you and the person helping you with your home dialysis treatments. A Medicare-certified home dialysis training facility must provide the training. Only Medicare-certified dialysis facilities can bill Medicare (directly or under arrangement) for providing home dialysis training.
- Home dialysis equipment & supplies (like the dialysis machine, water treatment system, basic recliner, alcohol, wipes, sterile drapes, rubber gloves, and scissors).
- Certain home support services you get from your dialysis facility. This may include:
  - Visits from trained hospital or dialysis facility workers to monitor your home dialysis, help in emergencies (when needed), and check your equipment and water supply.
  - A face-to-face visit between you and your doctor (or certain non-doctor providers, like physician assistants and nurse practitioners) once a month.
- Most drugs for outpatient and home dialysis, including heparin, the antidote for heparin (when medically necessary), topical anesthetics, and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (like epoetin alfa or darbepoetin alfa) to treat anemia related to your ESRD. Part B doesn't cover phosphate binders (ESRD-related drugs taken by mouth that only come in a capsule, tablet, or liquid form). Only Part D covers phosphate binders. Talk with your doctor or health care team about the use of any drugs, including over-the-counter products.
- Other dialysis services & supplies (like laboratory tests).

**Note:** Part B only covers ambulance services to and from your home to the nearest dialysis facility when traveling in any other vehicle could endanger your health.

## Dialysis services & supplies (continued)

### Costs

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-services-supplies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-services-supplies) for cost information.

### Things to know

Medicare **doesn't** cover:

- Paid dialysis aides to help you with home dialysis
- Any lost pay to you or the person who may be helping you during home dialysis training
- A place to stay during your treatment
- Blood or packed red blood cells for home dialysis unless part of a doctor's service

### More information

- Go to "Dialysis (children)" on page 36.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-services-supplies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/dialysis-services-supplies).

## Doctor & other health care provider services

Part B covers medically necessary doctor services (including outpatient services and some doctor services you get when you're a hospital inpatient) and most preventive services.

If you haven't gotten services from your doctor or group practice in the last 3 years, they may consider you a new patient. Check with the doctor or group practice to find out if they're accepting new patients.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for most services. You pay nothing for certain preventive services if your health care provider accepts assignment. Go to "Preventive & screening services" on pages 89–90.

### Things to know

A doctor can be a Doctor of Medicine (MD), a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), and in some cases, a dentist, podiatrist (foot doctor), optometrist (eye doctor), or doctor of chiropractic.

Medicare also covers services you get from other health care providers, like:

- Clinical nurse specialists
- Clinical psychologists
- Clinical social workers
- Marriage and family therapists
- Mental health counselors

## Doctor & other health care provider services (continued)

- Nurse practitioners
- Occupational therapists
- Physician assistants
- Physical therapists
- Speech-language pathologists

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/doctor-other-health-care-provider-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/doctor-other-health-care-provider-services).

## Drugs

Go to “Prescription drugs (outpatient)” on pages 86–88.

## Durable medical equipment (DME)

DME is defined as equipment that meets these criteria:

- Durable (can withstand repeated use)
- Used for a medical reason
- Typically only useful to someone who is sick or injured
- Used in your home
- Expected to last at least 3 years

Part B covers medically necessary DME if your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider prescribes it for use in your home. You must rent most items, but you can also buy them. Some items become your property after you’ve made a certain number of rental payments.

Medicare-covered DME includes, but isn’t limited to:

- Blood sugar meters and test strips
- Canes
- Commode chairs
- Continuous passive motion machines, devices, & accessories
- Continuous positive airway pressure machines
- Crutches
- Hospital beds
- Infusion pumps and supplies
- Nebulizers and nebulizer medications
- Oxygen equipment and accessories

## Durable medical equipment (DME) (continued)

- Patient lifts
- Pressure-reducing support surfaces
- Suction pumps
- Traction equipment
- Walkers
- Wheelchairs and scooters

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for DME (if your supplier accepts assignment). Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/durable-medical-equipment-dme-coverage](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/durable-medical-equipment-dme-coverage) for more cost information.

### Things to know

Make sure your doctors, other health care providers, and DME suppliers are enrolled in Medicare. It's important to ask a supplier if they participate in Medicare before you get your DME. If suppliers are participating in Medicare, they must accept assignment. This means they can only charge you the coinsurance and Part B deductible for the Medicare-approved amount. If DME suppliers aren't participating and don't accept assignment, there's no limit on the amount they can charge you.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/durable-medical-equipment-dme-coverage](https://www.medicare.gov/durable-medical-equipment-dme-coverage).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).

## Electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) screenings

Part B covers a routine EKG or ECG screening if you get a referral from your doctor or other health care provider during your one-time "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. Part B also covers EKGs or ECGs as diagnostic tests.

### How often

Once when you get a referral as part of your "Welcome to Medicare" visit, and more often as a diagnostic test if medically necessary.

## Electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) screenings (continued)

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount. If you have the test at a hospital or a hospital-owned clinic, you also pay the hospital a copayment.

### More information

- Go to “Preventive visits” on pages 90–92.
- Go to “Diagnostic non-laboratory tests” on page 35.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/electrocardiogram-ekg-or-ecg-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/electrocardiogram-ekg-or-ecg-screenings).

## Emergency department services

Part B usually covers emergency department services when you have an injury, a sudden illness, or an illness that quickly gets much worse.

### Costs

- You pay a copayment for each emergency department visit and a copayment for each hospital service you get.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you also pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor’s services.
- If your doctor or other health care provider admits you to the same hospital for a related condition within 3 days of your emergency department visit, you don’t pay the copayment(s) because Medicare considers your visit part of your inpatient stay.

### Things to know

Medicare only covers emergency services outside the U.S. under rare circumstances. For more information, go to “Travel outside the U.S.” on pages 108–109.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/emergency-department-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/emergency-department-services).

## Enteral nutrition supplies & equipment

Part B covers enteral nutrition supplies and equipment (feeding pumps) under prosthetic device benefits.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount. Medicare will cover your enteral infusion pump from a Medicare-enrolled doctor, other health care provider, or supplier. If a supplier doesn't accept assignment, there's no limit on the amount they can charge you, and you may have to pay the entire bill (both your share and Medicare's share) at the time you get the pump.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/enteral-nutrition-supplies-equipment](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/enteral-nutrition-supplies-equipment).

## Eye exams

Medicare covers eye exams in certain situations, including:

- If you have diabetes: Go to “Eye exams (for diabetes)” below.
- Glaucoma screening tests: Go to page 47.
- Macular degeneration tests & treatment: Go to page 65.

### Eye exams (for diabetes)

Part B covers eye exams for diabetic retinopathy if you have diabetes. You must get the exam from an eye doctor who's legally allowed to do the test in your state.

### How often

Once each year.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor's services. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a copayment.

### More information

- Go to “Diabetes services” and “Diabetes supplies” on pages 33–34.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/eye-exams-for-diabetes](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/eye-exams-for-diabetes).

## Eye exams (routine)

Medicare doesn't cover routine eye exams (sometimes called "eye refractions") for eyeglasses or contact lenses.

### Costs

You pay 100% for eye exams for eyeglasses or contact lenses.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/eye-exams-routine](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/eye-exams-routine).

## Eyeglasses & contact lenses

Medicare doesn't usually cover eyeglasses or contact lenses. However, Part B covers one pair of eyeglasses with standard frames (or one set of contact lenses) after each covered cataract surgery that implants an intraocular lens.

### Costs

You pay 100% for non-covered services, including most eyeglasses or contact lenses. After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for corrective lenses after each covered cataract surgery with an intraocular lens. You pay any additional costs for upgraded frames. Medicare will only pay for contact lenses or eyeglasses from a supplier enrolled in Medicare, no matter if you or your supplier submits the claim.

### More information

- Go to "Cataract surgery" on pages 17-18.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/eyeglasses-contact-lenses](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/eyeglasses-contact-lenses).

## Eyes

Go to "Artificial eyes & limbs" on page 10.



## Fecal occult blood tests (screening)

Fecal occult blood test screenings can help detect colorectal cancer early, when treatment is most effective. Medicare covers these screening tests if you get a referral from your doctor, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist.

### How often

If you're 45 or older, Medicare covers this screening test once every 12 months. If you're under 45, Medicare doesn't cover this test.

### Costs

You pay nothing for this screening test if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

- Go to “Colorectal cancer screenings” on page 23.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/fecal-occult-blood-tests](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/fecal-occult-blood-tests).

## Federally Qualified Health Center services

Federally Qualified Health Centers are public health centers that focus on serving at-risk and underserved populations, like those in urban and rural areas. Part B covers a broad range of outpatient primary care and preventive services you can get in Federally Qualified Health Centers.

### Costs

You usually pay 20% of the cost of any services you get at a Federally Qualified Health Center. You pay nothing for most preventive services. The Part B deductible doesn't apply. Federally Qualified Health Centers offer lower fees if you have limited income.

### More information

- To find a Federally Qualified Health Center near you, visit [findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov](https://www.findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/federally-qualified-health-center-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/federally-qualified-health-center-services).

## Feeding pumps

Go to “Enteral nutrition supplies & equipment” on page 42.



## Flexible sigmoidoscopy screenings

Medicare covers flexible sigmoidoscopy screenings (endoscopic procedures that examine the rectum and lower colon).

### How often

Medicare covers this test once every 48 months for most people 45 or older. If you aren't at high risk for colorectal cancer, Medicare covers this test 120 months after a previous screening colonoscopy.

### Costs

- You pay nothing if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.
- If your health care provider finds and removes a lesion or growth during your flexible sigmoidoscopy screening, you'll pay 15% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor's services. In a hospital outpatient setting or ambulatory surgical center, you also pay the facility a 15% coinsurance. In these cases, the Part B deductible doesn't apply.

### More information

- Go to "Colorectal cancer screenings" on page 23.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/flexible-sigmoidoscopies](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/flexible-sigmoidoscopies).



## Flu shots

Part B covers the seasonal flu shot.

### How often

Usually one shot per flu season.

### Costs

You pay nothing for a flu shot if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/flu-shots](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/flu-shots).

## Foot care

Part B covers podiatrist (foot doctor) foot exams or treatment if you have diabetes-related nerve damage that can increase the risk of limb loss, or need medically necessary treatment for foot injuries or diseases (like hammer toe, bunion deformities, and heel spurs).

## Foot care (continued)

Medicare doesn't usually cover routine foot care, like cutting or removing corns and calluses, trimming, cutting, or clipping nails, or hygienic or other preventive maintenance, like cleaning and soaking your feet.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for medically necessary treatment you get from your doctor or other health care provider.
- In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a copayment for medically necessary treatment.
- In most cases, you pay 100% for routine foot care.

### More information

- If you have diabetes, go to “Therapeutic shoes or inserts” on page 107 and “Foot care (for diabetes)” below.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care-routine](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care-routine).

## Foot care (for diabetes)

Part B covers foot exams if you have diabetes-related lower leg nerve damage that can increase the risk of limb loss.

### How often

Once a year, as long as you haven't seen a foot care professional for another reason between visits.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for any medically necessary foot treatment you get from your doctor or other health care provider.
- In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a copayment.

### More information

- Go to “Therapeutic shoes or inserts” on page 107.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care-for-diabetes](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/foot-care-for-diabetes).



## Glaucoma screenings

Part B covers this screening if you're at high risk for developing the eye disease glaucoma. You're considered high risk if at least one of these conditions applies to you:

- You have diabetes.
- You have a family history of glaucoma.
- You're African American and 50 or older.
- You're Hispanic and 65 or older.

### How often

Once every 12 months.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.
- In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a copayment.

### Things to know

An eye doctor who's legally allowed to do glaucoma tests in your state must do or supervise your screening.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/glaucoma-tests](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/glaucoma-tests).

## Gym memberships & fitness programs

Medicare doesn't cover gym memberships or fitness programs.

### Costs

You pay 100% for non-covered services, including gym memberships and fitness programs.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/gym-membership-fitness-programs](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/gym-membership-fitness-programs).

## Health education & wellness programs

Medicare usually doesn't cover health education and wellness programs, but it does cover:

- Alcohol misuse screenings & counseling: Go to page 8.
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use & tobacco-caused disease: Go to page 26.
- Depression screenings: Go to page 31.
- Diabetes self-management training: Go to pages 32-33.
- Kidney disease education: Go to page 59.
- Medical nutrition therapy, if you have diabetes or kidney disease: Go to page 66.
- Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program: Go to pages 67-68.
- Obesity behavioral therapy: Go to page 75.
- A "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit: Go to pages 90-91.
- Yearly "Wellness" visits: Go to pages 91-92.

## Hearing & balance exams

Part B covers diagnostic hearing and balance exams if your Medicare-enrolled doctor or health care provider orders them to find out if you need medical treatment.

You can also visit an audiologist once every 12 months without an order from your health care provider, but only for:

- Non-acute hearing conditions (like hearing loss that happens over many years).
- Diagnostic services related to hearing loss that's treated with surgically implanted hearing devices.

### Costs

- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.
- In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay the hospital a copayment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hearing-balance-exams](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/hearing-balance-exams).

## Hearing aids

Medicare doesn't cover hearing aids or exams for fitting hearing aids.

### Costs

You pay 100% of the cost for hearing aids and exams.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hearing-aids](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/hearing-aids).



## Hepatitis B shots

Part B covers these preventive shots if you're at medium or high risk for Hepatitis B. Your Hepatitis B risk increases if one or more of these conditions applies to you:

- You have hemophilia and you get factors VIII or IX.
- You have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant).
- You have diabetes.
- You live with someone who has Hepatitis B.
- You're a health care worker and have frequent contact with blood or bodily fluids.

Other factors may also increase your risk for Hepatitis B. Check with your doctor or other health care provider to find out if you're at medium or high risk for Hepatitis B.

### Costs

You pay nothing for Hepatitis B shots if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-b-shots](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-b-shots).



## Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) infection screenings

Medicare covers an HBV screening if your Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders one, and you meet one of these conditions:

- You're at high risk for HBV infection.
- You're pregnant.

## Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) infection screenings (continued)

### How often

- Once a year if you're at continued high risk and don't get a Hepatitis B shot.
- If you're pregnant:
  - At the first prenatal visit.
  - At the time of delivery if you have new or continued risk factors.
  - At the first prenatal visit for future pregnancies, even if you previously got the Hepatitis B shot or had negative HBV screening results.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the screening if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-b-virus-hbv-infection-screenings](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-b-virus-hbv-infection-screenings).



## Hepatitis C screenings

Medicare covers a Hepatitis C screening if your Medicare-enrolled primary care doctor or other health care provider orders one, and you meet one or more of these conditions:

- You're at high risk because you use or have used illicit injection drugs.
- You had a blood transfusion before 1992.
- You were born between 1945-1965.

### How often

Once, if you were born between 1945-1965 and aren't considered high risk. If you're at high risk (for example, you've continued to use illicit injection drugs since your previous negative Hepatitis C screening test), Medicare covers yearly screenings.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the screening if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-c-screenings](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/hepatitis-c-screenings).



## HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) screenings

Part B covers an HIV screening if you meet one of these conditions:

- You're 15–65.
- You're younger than 15 or older than 65 and at an increased risk for HIV.

### How often

Once per year, if you meet one of the conditions above. If you're pregnant, you can get the screening up to 3 times during your pregnancy.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the test if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hiv-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/hiv-screenings).

## Home health services

Part A and/or Part B cover eligible home health services as long as you need part-time or intermittent skilled services and as long as you're "homebound," which means:

- You have trouble leaving your home without help (like using a cane, wheelchair, walker, or crutches; special transportation; or help from another person) because of an illness or injury.
- Leaving your home isn't recommended because of your condition.
- You're normally unable to leave your home because it's a major effort.

Covered home health services include:

- Medically necessary part-time or intermittent skilled nursing care
- Part-time or intermittent home health aide care (only if you're also getting skilled nursing care at the same time)
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech-language pathology services
- Medical social services
- Injectable osteoporosis drugs for women
- Durable medical equipment
- Medical supplies for use at home

## Home health services (continued)

Medicare **doesn't** pay for:

- 24-hour-a-day care at your home
- Meals delivered to your home
- Custodial or personal care that helps you with daily living activities (like bathing, dressing, and using the bathroom) when this is the only care you need
- Homemaker services (like shopping and cleaning) that aren't related to your care plan

### How often

In most cases, “part-time or intermittent” means you may be able to get skilled nursing care and home health aide services up to 8 hours a day, for a maximum of 28 hours per week. You may be able to get more frequent care for a short time if your doctor or other health care provider determines it's necessary.

### Costs

- For all covered home health services, you pay nothing.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Medicare-covered medical equipment.

### Things to know

A health care provider (like a nurse practitioner) must have a face-to-face visit with you before certifying that you need home health services. A health care provider must order your care, and a Medicare-certified home health agency must provide it.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services).

## Home infusion therapy services, equipment, & supplies

Part B covers infusion equipment and supplies as durable medical equipment (DME) when used in your home.

Medicare also covers home infusion therapy services needed to safely administer certain intravenous or subcutaneous drugs in your home, like nursing visits, caregiver training, and patient monitoring.

### Costs

In most cases, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for home infusion therapy services, and for the equipment and supplies you use in your home. The Part B deductible applies for the equipment and supplies.

## Home infusion therapy services & supplies (continued)

### Things to know

Home infusion equipment and supplies include pumps, IV poles, tubing, and catheters for infusion therapy to administer certain infusion drugs (like Intravenous Immune Globulin) at home.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Go to “Caregiver training services” on pages 16–17.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/home-infusion-therapy-services-supplies](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/home-infusion-therapy-services-supplies).

## Hospice care

You can usually get Medicare-certified hospice care in your home or other facility where you live, like a nursing home. You qualify for hospice care if you have Part A and meet all of these conditions:

- Your hospice doctor and your regular doctor (if you have one) certify that you’re terminally ill (with a life expectancy of 6 months or less).
- You accept comfort care (palliative care) instead of care to cure your illness.
- You sign a statement choosing hospice care instead of other Medicare-covered treatments for your terminal illness and related conditions.

### Costs

- You pay nothing for hospice care.
- You pay a copayment of up to \$5 for each prescription for outpatient drugs for pain and symptom management. In the rare case the hospice benefit doesn’t cover your drug, your hospice provider should contact your plan to find out if Part D covers it. The hospice provider will inform you if any drugs or services aren’t covered, and if you’ll be required to pay for them.
- You may pay 5% of the Medicare-approved amount for inpatient respite care. Your copay can’t exceed the inpatient hospital deductible for the year.
- Original Medicare will still pay for covered benefits for any health problems that aren’t part of your terminal illness and related conditions, but this is unusual. Once you choose hospice care, your hospice benefit will usually cover everything you need.
- You may have to pay for room and board if you live in a facility (like a nursing home) and choose to get hospice care.

## Hospice care (continued)

### Things to know

Depending on your terminal illness and related conditions, your hospice team will create a plan of care that can include any or all of these services:

- Doctors' services.
- Nursing care and medical services.
- Durable medical equipment for pain relief and symptom management.
- Medical supplies, like bandages or catheters.
- Drugs for pain and symptom management.
- Aide and homemaker services.
- Physical therapy services.
- Occupational therapy services.
- Speech-language pathology services.
- Social services.
- Dietary counseling.
- Spiritual and grief counseling for you and your family.
- Short-term inpatient care for pain and symptom management.
- Inpatient respite care, which is care you get in a Medicare-approved facility (like an inpatient facility, hospital, or nursing home), so that your usual caregiver (like a family member or friend) can rest. Your hospice provider will arrange this for you. You can stay up to 5 days each time you get respite care. You can get respite care more than once, but only on an occasional basis.
- Any other services Medicare covers to manage your pain and other symptoms related to your terminal illness and related conditions, as your hospice team recommends.

### More information

- Go to "Caregiver training services" on page 16-17.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hospice-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/hospice-care).

## Hospital beds

Part B covers hospital beds as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hospital-beds](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/hospital-beds).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).

## Human Papillomavirus (HPV) tests

Go to “Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings” on page 18.

## Humidifiers

Medicare doesn’t usually cover humidifiers or other similar items, like room heaters, dehumidifiers, or electric air cleaners.

However, when medically necessary, Medicare covers oxygen humidifiers used with certain covered durable medical equipment (DME).

### Costs

You pay 100% for most humidifiers or other similar items. If it’s medically necessary, you won’t have to pay a separate amount for an oxygen humidifier. The monthly fee for your oxygen equipment will include the cost of an oxygen humidifier.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/humidifiers](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/humidifiers).

## Hyperbaric oxygen therapy

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy exposes your entire body to oxygen under increased atmospheric pressure. Medicare covers this therapy if you meet certain conditions and you get it in a chamber (including a one-person unit).

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount, and the Part B deductible may apply.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/hyperbaric-oxygen-therapy](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/hyperbaric-oxygen-therapy).

## Inpatient hospital care

Part A covers inpatient hospital care if you meet both of these conditions:

- You're admitted to the hospital as an inpatient after an official doctor's order, which says you need inpatient hospital care to treat your illness or injury.
- The hospital accepts Medicare.

Medicare-covered inpatient hospital services include:

- Semi-private rooms
- Meals
- General nursing
- Drugs (including methadone to treat an opioid use disorder)
- Other hospital services and supplies you might get as part of your inpatient treatment

Medicare **doesn't** cover:

- Private-duty nursing
- A television or phone in your room (if there's a separate charge for these items)
- Personal care items (like toothpaste, razors, or slipper socks)
- A private room, unless medically necessary

### Costs

You pay this in each benefit period (in 2024):

- Days 1-60: \$1,632 deductible.
- Days 61-90: \$408 each day.
- Days 91 and beyond: \$816 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days.
- Each day after you use all of your lifetime reserve days: All costs.

Part A only pays for up to 190 days of inpatient mental health care in a freestanding psychiatric hospital during your lifetime. The 190-day limit doesn't apply to care you get in a Medicare-certified, distinct part psychiatric unit within an acute care or critical access hospital.

## Inpatient hospital care (continued)

### Things to know

Inpatient hospital care includes care you get in:

- Acute care hospitals
- Critical access hospitals
- Inpatient rehabilitation facilities
- Long-term care hospitals
- Inpatient psychiatric facilities

It also includes inpatient care you get as part of a qualifying clinical research study.

**Note:** Hospitals must now include the standard charges for all of their items and services (including the standard charges that Medicare Advantage Plans negotiate) on a public website to help you make more informed decisions about your care.

### More information

- Mental health care: Go to pages 68-72.
- Outpatient hospital services: Go to page 81.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/inpatient-hospital-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/inpatient-hospital-care).

## Inpatient rehabilitation care

Part A covers medically necessary care you get in an inpatient rehabilitation facility or unit (sometimes called an inpatient “rehab” facility, IRF, acute care rehabilitation center, or rehabilitation hospital). Your doctor or other health care provider must certify that you have a medical condition requiring intensive rehabilitation, continued medical supervision, and coordinated care from your doctors, other health care providers, and therapists.

Part B covers doctors’ services you get while you’re in an inpatient rehabilitation facility.

### Costs

You pay this for each benefit period in 2024:

- Days 1-60: \$1,632 deductible.
- Days 61-90: \$408 each day.
- Days 91 and beyond: \$816 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days.
- Each day after you use all of your lifetime reserve days: All costs.

## Inpatient rehabilitation care (continued)

**Note:** You don't have to pay a deductible for inpatient rehabilitation care if Medicare already charged you a deductible for care you got in a prior hospitalization within the same benefit period. This is because your benefit period starts on day one of your prior hospital stay, and that stay counts toward your deductible. For example, you won't have to pay a deductible for inpatient rehabilitation care if:

- You're transferred to an inpatient rehabilitation facility directly from an acute care hospital.
- You're admitted to an inpatient rehabilitation facility within 60 days of being discharged from a hospital.

### Things to know

Inpatient rehabilitation can help if you're recovering from a serious surgery, illness, or injury, and need an intensive rehabilitation therapy program, physician supervision, and coordinated care from your doctors, other health care providers, and therapists.

Medicare-covered inpatient rehabilitation care includes:

- Rehabilitation services, like physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology
- A semi-private room
- Meals
- Nursing services
- Prescription drugs
- Other hospital services and supplies

Medicare **doesn't** cover:

- Private duty nursing
- A phone or television in your room (if there's a separate charge for these items)
- Personal care items (like toothpaste, razors, or slipper socks)
- A private room, unless medically necessary

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/inpatient-rehabilitation-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/inpatient-rehabilitation-care).

## Insulin

Part B covers insulin if you use an insulin pump that's covered under Part B's durable medical equipment benefit. Part B doesn't cover insulin pens, or insulin-related supplies, like syringes, needles, alcohol swabs, or gauze.

If you have a Part D plan, it may cover:

- Injectable insulin that isn't used with a traditional insulin pump.
- Insulin used with a disposable insulin pump.

## Insulin (continued)

- Certain medical supplies used to inject insulin, like syringes, gauze, and alcohol swabs.
- Insulin that's inhaled.

### Costs

- The cost of a one-month supply of each Part D- and Part B-covered insulin is capped at \$35, and you don't have to pay a deductible for insulin. If you get a 3-month supply of insulin, your costs can't be more than \$35 for each month's supply of each covered insulin. This means you'll generally pay no more than \$105 for a 3-month supply of covered insulin.
- Under Part D, the \$35 cap applies to everyone who takes insulin, even if you get Extra Help.
- If you have Part B and Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) that pays your Part B coinsurance, your plan should cover the \$35 (or less) cost for insulin.

### Things to know

If you use an insulin pump that isn't disposable, Part B may cover insulin used with the pump and the pump itself as durable medical equipment. Go to "Durable medical equipment (DME)" on pages 39–40.

### More information

- Go to "Diabetes services" and "Diabetes supplies" on pages 33–34.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/insulin](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/insulin).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/about-us/prescription-drug-law](https://www.Medicare.gov/about-us/prescription-drug-law).

## Kidney disease education

Kidney disease education teaches you how to take the best possible care of your kidneys and gives you information you need to make informed decisions about your care.

Medicare covers up to 6 sessions of kidney disease education services if you have Stage IV chronic kidney disease that usually requires dialysis or a kidney transplant. Medicare covers this if your doctor or other health care provider refers you for the service, and you get the service from a doctor, certain qualified non-doctor provider, or certain rural provider.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount per session if you get the service from a health care provider.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-disease-education](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-disease-education).

## Kidney services & supplies

Go to “Dialysis services & supplies” on pages 36–38.

## Kidney transplants

Part A and Part B cover different items and services related to kidney transplants. Medicare covers these services if you get them from the Medicare-certified hospital where you’ll get your transplant or another hospital that participates in Medicare.

### **Part A covers transplant services and pays part of the costs for:**

- Inpatient services in a Medicare-certified hospital
- A kidney registration fee
- Laboratory and other tests to evaluate your medical condition and the condition of potential kidney donors
- Finding the proper kidney for your transplant surgery (if there’s no kidney donor)
- Any additional inpatient hospital care for your donor in case of problems from surgery
- Blood (whole units of packed red blood cells, blood components, and the cost of processing and giving you blood)

Part A also covers the full cost of care for your kidney donor (including care before surgery, the actual surgery, and care after surgery). You and your donor won’t have to pay a deductible, coinsurance, or any other costs for the donor’s hospital stay.

### **Part B covers transplant services and pays part of the costs for blood, and doctors’ services for:**

- Kidney transplant surgery (including care before surgery, the actual surgery, and care after surgery)
- Your kidney donor during their hospital stay

If Medicare paid for the transplant, Part B also covers immunosuppressive drugs (transplant drugs) in certain circumstances.

## Kidney transplants (continued)

### Costs

For the transplant and related services, you pay:

- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Part B services, after you meet the Part B deductible.
- Nothing for the services provided to the donor for a kidney transplant.
- Nothing for Medicare-approved laboratory tests.

For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57.

### Things to know

If you’re thinking about joining a Medicare Advantage Plan and are on a transplant waiting list or think you need a transplant, check with the plan before you join to make sure your doctors, other health care providers, and hospitals are in the plan’s network. Also, check the plan’s rules for prior authorization.

### More information

- Go to “Organ transplants” on pages 77–78.
- Go to “Kidney transplants (children)” below.
- For more on transplant/immunosuppressive drugs, go to “Prescription drugs (outpatient)” on pages 86–88.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-transplants](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-transplants).

## Kidney transplants (children)

Part A and Part B cover different items and services related to children’s (pediatric) kidney transplants.

### Part A usually covers these transplant services:

- Inpatient services in an approved hospital
- Kidney registry fee
- Laboratory and other tests to evaluate your child’s medical condition and the condition of possible kidney donors
- The costs of finding the proper kidney for your child’s transplant surgery
- The full cost of care for your child’s kidney donor
- Blood (if a transfusion is needed)

## Kidney transplants (children) (continued)

### Part B covers these transplant services:

- Doctors' services for kidney transplant surgery
- Doctors' services for the kidney donor during their hospital stay
- Blood (if a transfusion is needed)

If Medicare paid for the transplant, Part B also covers immunosuppressive drugs (transplant drugs) in certain circumstances.

### Costs

- After you pay the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Part B services.
- If your child has other insurance, your costs may be different.
- For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.

### More information

- Go to "Dialysis (children)" on page 36.
- For more on transplant/immunosuppressive drugs, go to "Prescription drugs (outpatient)" on pages 86–88.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-transplants-children](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/kidney-transplants-children).

## Laboratory tests

- Clinical laboratory tests: Go to page 21.
- Diagnostic laboratory tests: Go to page 35.
- Diagnostic non-laboratory tests: Go to page 35.

## Long-term care

**Medicare and most health insurance, including Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap), don't pay for long-term care.** This type of care (also called “custodial care” or “long-term services and support”) includes medical and non-medical care for people who have a chronic illness or disability.

### Costs

You pay 100% for non-covered services, including most long-term care.

### Things to know

- Most long-term care isn't medical care. Instead, most long-term care helps with basic personal tasks of everyday life, sometimes called “activities of daily living.” This includes things like dressing, bathing, and using the bathroom. Long-term care may also include home-delivered meals, adult day health care, and other services.
- You may qualify for long-term care through Medicaid, or you can choose to buy private long-term care insurance.
- You can get long-term care at home, in the community, in an assisted living facility, or in a nursing home. It's important to start planning for long-term care now so you can maintain your independence and make sure you get the care you may need, in the setting you want, now and in the future.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/long-term-care](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/long-term-care).

## Long-term care hospital services

Long-term care hospitals typically provide care to patients with more than one serious medical condition. The patients may improve with time and care, and eventually return home. These hospitals typically give services like respiratory therapy, head trauma treatment, and pain management. Part A covers care in long-term care hospitals.

### Costs

You pay this for each benefit period in 2024:

- Days 1-60: \$1,632 deductible.
- Days 61-90: \$408 each day.
- Days 91 and beyond: \$816 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days.
- Each day after you use all of your lifetime reserve days: All costs.

## Long-term care hospital services (continued)

**Note:** You don't have to pay a deductible for care you get in the long-term care hospital if you were already charged a deductible for care you got in a prior hospitalization within the same benefit period. This is because your benefit period starts on day one of your prior hospital stay, and that stay counts towards your deductible. For example, you won't have to pay a deductible for your long-term hospital care if:

- You're transferred to a long-term care hospital directly from an acute care hospital.
- You're admitted to a long-term care hospital within 60 days of being discharged from a hospital.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/long-term-care-hospital-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/long-term-care-hospital-services).



## Lung cancer screenings

Part B covers lung cancer screenings with low dose computed tomography (also known as "CT scans") if you meet **all** of these conditions:

- You're 50-77.
- You don't have signs or symptoms of lung cancer (you're asymptomatic).
- You're either a current smoker, or you quit smoking within the last 15 years.
- You have a tobacco smoking history of at least 20 "pack years" (an average of one pack (20 cigarettes) per day for 20 years).
- You get an order from your health care provider.

### How often

Once each year.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the screening if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### Things to know

Before your first lung cancer screening, you'll need to schedule an appointment with your health care provider to discuss the benefits and risks and decide if a screening is right for you.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/lung-cancer-screenings](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/lung-cancer-screenings).

## Lymphedema compression treatment items

Lymphedema compression treatment items help control and reduce swelling caused by lymphedema (a chronic condition that causes swelling in the body's tissues). Starting January 1, 2024, Medicare covers gradient compression garments (standard and custom-fitted) if you've been diagnosed with lymphedema and your doctor or other health care provider prescribes them.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/lymphedema-compression-treatment-items](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/lymphedema-compression-treatment-items).

## Macular degeneration tests & treatment

Part B may cover certain diagnostic tests and treatments (including treatment with certain injectable drugs) if you have age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

### Costs

- In most cases, after you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for the drug and your doctor's services.
- In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a separate facility copayment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/macular-degeneration-tests-treatment](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/macular-degeneration-tests-treatment).



## Mammograms

Mammograms check for breast cancer. Part B covers:

- A baseline mammogram (if you're a woman between 35–39)
- Annual screening mammograms (if you're a woman 40 or older)
- Diagnostic mammograms

### How often

- Baseline mammogram: Once in your lifetime.
- Screening mammograms: Once every 12 months.
- Diagnostic mammograms: More frequently than once a year, if medically necessary.

## Mammograms (continued)

### Costs

- Screening and baseline mammograms: You pay nothing for the test if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.
- Diagnostic mammograms: After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

Medicare only covers medically necessary breast ultrasounds when your Medicare-enrolled health care provider orders them.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/mammograms](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/mammograms).



## Medical nutrition therapy services

Part B covers medical nutrition therapy services if you have diabetes or kidney disease, or if you've had a kidney transplant in the last 36 months. A doctor must refer you for the services.

The services you get may include:

- An initial nutrition and lifestyle assessment
- Individual and/or group nutritional therapy services
- Help managing the lifestyle factors that affect your diabetes
- Follow-up visits to check on your progress

### Costs

You pay nothing for these services if you qualify to get them.

### Things to know

- Only a registered dietitian or nutrition professional who meets certain requirements can provide medical nutrition therapy services.
- If you get dialysis in a dialysis facility, Medicare covers medical nutrition therapy services as part of your overall dialysis care.
- If you're in a rural area, a registered dietitian or other nutrition professional in a different location may be able to provide medical nutrition therapy to you through telehealth. Go to "Telehealth" on page 106.
- If you have diabetes, you may also qualify for diabetes self-management training. Go to "Diabetes self-management training" on pages 32-33.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/medical-nutrition-therapy-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/medical-nutrition-therapy-services).



## Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program

The Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program is a health behavior change program to help you prevent type 2 diabetes. The program begins with weekly core sessions offered in a group setting over a 6-month period. In these sessions, you'll get:

- Training to make realistic, lasting behavior changes around diet and exercise
- Tips for getting more exercise
- Strategies to control your weight
- A specially trained coach to help keep you motivated
- Support from people with similar goals and challenges

Once you complete the core sessions, you'll get 6 monthly follow-up sessions to help you maintain healthy habits.

Part B covers the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program if **all** of these conditions apply to you:

- Within 12 months before attending your first core session, you have a hemoglobin A1c test result between 5.7% and 6.4%, a fasting plasma glucose of 110-125mg/dL, or a 2-hour plasma glucose of 140-199 mg/dL (oral glucose tolerant test).
- You have a body mass index (BMI) of 25 or more (BMI of 23 or more if you're Asian).
- You've never been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes or End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD).
- You've never participated in the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program.

### How often

Once in a lifetime.

### Costs

You pay nothing for this program if you qualify for it.

## Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (continued)

### Things to know

- You can get these services virtually (through December 31, 2027) or in person from an approved Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program supplier. These suppliers may be traditional health care providers or organizations like community centers or faith-based organizations.
- If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you may have to go to an in-network provider to get these services. Contact your plan for more information.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/medicare-diabetes-prevention-program](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/medicare-diabetes-prevention-program).

## Mental health care (inpatient)

Mental health care services involve diagnosing and treating people with mental health disorders, like depression and anxiety. Part A covers mental health care services you get when you're admitted as a hospital inpatient. Part B covers the services you get from a doctor or other health care provider while you're in the hospital.

### Costs

You pay this for each benefit period in 2024:

- Days 1–60: \$1,632 deductible.
- Days 61–90: \$408 each day.
- Days 91 and beyond: \$816 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days.
- Each day after you use all of your lifetime reserve days: All costs.
- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for mental health services you get from doctors and other health care providers while you're a hospital inpatient.

### Things to know

You can get these services either in a general hospital or a psychiatric hospital (a facility that only cares for people with mental health disorders).

If you're in a psychiatric hospital (instead of a general hospital), Part A only pays for up to 190 days of inpatient psychiatric hospital services during your lifetime.

## Mental health care (inpatient) (continued)

Medicare **doesn't** cover:

- Private duty nursing
- A phone or television in your room (if there's a separate charge for these items)
- Personal care items (like toothpaste, razors, or slipper socks)
- A private room, unless medically necessary

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-inpatient](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-inpatient).

## Mental health care (intensive outpatient program services)

Intensive outpatient programs offer a level of care for mental health conditions (including substance use disorders) between traditional once-weekly therapy or counseling, and inpatient or partial hospitalization psychiatric care. The services are more rigorous than care you'd get in a doctor's or therapist's office and may include group and individual therapy sessions. Part B covers intensive outpatient program services you get at a hospital, community mental health center, Federally Qualified Health Center, or Rural Health Clinic. Part B also covers these services at Opioid Treatment Programs when you're getting treatment for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).

### Costs

- You pay a percentage of the Medicare-approved amount for each service you get if your doctor or certain other qualified mental health professional accepts assignment.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you also pay coinsurance for each day of intensive outpatient program services you get in a hospital outpatient setting or community mental health center.

### Things to know

- You don't need to qualify for inpatient treatment to get intensive outpatient program services.
- You may benefit from intensive outpatient program services if your care plan states you require at least 9 hours of therapeutic services per week.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-intensive-outpatient-program-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-intensive-outpatient-program-services).

## Mental health care (outpatient)

Outpatient mental health services involve diagnosing and treating people with mental health conditions, like depression and anxiety. These visits are often called counseling or psychotherapy, and can be done individually, in group psychotherapy or family settings, and in crisis situations. Part B covers these outpatient mental health services:

- One depression screening each year. You must get the screening in a primary care doctor's office or primary care clinic that can provide follow-up treatment and referrals. Go to "Depression screenings" on page 31.
- Individual and group psychotherapy with doctors (or with certain other Medicare-enrolled licensed professionals, as the state where you get the services allows).
- Family counseling, if the main purpose is to help with your treatment.
- Testing to find out if you're getting the services you need and if your current treatment is helping you.
- Psychiatric evaluation.
- Medication management.
- Certain prescription drugs that aren't usually "self-administered" (drugs you would normally take on your own), like some injections.
- Diagnostic tests.
- Partial hospitalization. Go to "Mental health care (partial hospitalization)" on page 72.
- Intensive outpatient program services. Go to "Mental health care (intensive outpatient program services)" on page 69.
- Mental health services you get as part of substance use disorder treatment. Go to "Mental health & substance use disorder services" on page 73.
- A one-time "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. This visit includes a review of your possible risk factors for depression. Go to "Preventive visits" on pages 90–92.
- A yearly "Wellness" visit. Talk to your doctor or other health care provider about changes in your mental health since your last visit. Go to "Preventive visits" on pages 90–92.

## Mental health care (outpatient) (continued)

### Costs

- You pay nothing for your yearly depression screening if your health care provider accepts assignment.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for visits to your health care provider to diagnose or treat your condition.
- If you get services in a hospital outpatient clinic or hospital outpatient department, you may have to pay an additional copayment or coinsurance amount to the hospital.

### Things to know

Part B covers mental health services and visits with these types of health professionals:

- Psychiatrists or other doctors
- Clinical psychologists
- Clinical social workers
- Clinical nurse specialists
- Nurse practitioners
- Physician assistants
- Marriage & family therapists
- Mental health counselors

Part B covers outpatient mental health services, including services that you usually get outside of a hospital, in these types of settings:

- A doctor's or other health care provider's office
- A hospital outpatient department
- A community mental health center

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-outpatient](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-outpatient).

## Mental health care (partial hospitalization)

Partial hospitalization provides a structured program of outpatient psychiatric services as an alternative to inpatient psychiatric care. It's more intense than care you get in a doctor's or therapist's office, and your care plan must state that you require at least 20 hours of therapeutic services per week. You get treatment during the day, and you don't have to stay overnight.

Part B may cover partial hospitalization services you get through a hospital outpatient department or community mental health center if you meet certain requirements and your doctor or other qualified mental health professional certifies that you would otherwise need inpatient treatment.

### Costs

- You pay a percentage of the Medicare-approved amount for each service you get from a qualified mental health professional if they accept assignment.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you also pay coinsurance for each day of partial hospitalization services you get in a hospital outpatient setting or community mental health center.

### Things to know

As part of your partial hospitalization program, Medicare may cover occupational therapy that's part of your mental health treatment and individual patient training and education about your condition.

Medicare only covers partial hospitalization if the doctor (or other qualified mental health professional) and the partial hospitalization program accept assignment.

Medicare **doesn't** cover:

- Meals
- Transportation to or from mental health care services
- Support groups that bring people together to talk and socialize (this is different from group psychotherapy, which is covered)
- Testing or training for job skills that isn't part of your mental health treatment

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-partial-hospitalization](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-care-partial-hospitalization).

## Mental health & substance use disorder services

Medicare covers certain screenings, services, and programs that aid in the treatment and recovery of mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorders, including:

- Alcohol misuse screenings: Go to page 8.
- Behavioral health integration services: Go to pages 11–12.
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use & tobacco-caused disease: Go to page 26.
- Depression screenings: Go to page 31.
- Mental health care: Go to pages 68–72.
- Opioid use disorder treatment services: Go to pages 76–77.
- Telehealth: Go to page 106.

## Monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of early Alzheimer’s disease

Part B may cover FDA-approved monoclonal antibodies that target beta-amyloid plaques for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease if you meet certain criteria. Your doctor or other health care provider must confirm you have beta-amyloid plaques consistent with Alzheimer’s disease, and they must diagnose you with one of the following:

- Mild cognitive impairment due to Alzheimer’s disease
- Mild dementia due to Alzheimer’s disease

Medicare coverage of these monoclonal antibodies also requires your health care provider to collect evidence about how well these drugs work for a qualifying study or registry. The information your provider collects will help answer treatment questions and describe how well the medication works for you. Talk to your provider to find out if monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of early Alzheimer’s disease are right for you.

### Costs

- For Part B-covered monoclonal antibodies, you’ll pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount after you meet the Part B deductible.
- You may need scans and tests before or during treatment that might add to your costs. Talk to your provider for more information.

### Things to know

If Part B doesn’t cover an FDA-approved monoclonal antibody for the treatment of early Alzheimer’s disease, a Medicare drug plan might. Contact your plan for more information.

### More information

- Go to “Cognitive assessment & care plan services” on pages 21–22.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/monoclonal-antibodies-for-the-treatment-of-early-alzheimers-disease](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/monoclonal-antibodies-for-the-treatment-of-early-alzheimers-disease).

## Multi-target stool DNA tests

Multi-target stool DNA tests use stool samples to look for signs of colon cancer. Medicare covers these at-home screening tests if you meet all of these conditions:

- You're between 45-85.
- You show no symptoms of colorectal disease including, but not limited to, lower gastrointestinal pain, blood in stool, or a positive guaiac fecal occult blood test or fecal immunochemical test.
- You're at average risk for developing colorectal cancer, meaning:
  - You have no personal history of adenomatous polyps, colorectal cancer, or inflammatory bowel disease (including Crohn's Disease and ulcerative colitis).
  - You have no family history of colorectal cancers or adenomatous polyps, familial adenomatous polyposis, or hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer.

### **How often**

Once every 3 years.

### **Costs**

You pay nothing for these screening tests if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### **More information**

- Go to “Colorectal cancer screenings” on page 23.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/multi-target-stool-dna-tests](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/multi-target-stool-dna-tests).

## **MRIs**

Go to “Diagnostic non-laboratory tests” on page 35.

## **Nebulizers & nebulizer medications**

Part B covers nebulizers (and some medicines used in nebulizers if considered reasonable and necessary). Part B covers these as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

### **More information**

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39-40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/nebulizers-nebulizer-medications](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/nebulizers-nebulizer-medications).

## Nursing home care

Most nursing home care is custodial care, which helps you with activities of daily living (like bathing, dressing, using the bathroom, and eating) or personal needs that could be done safely and reasonably without professional skills or training. **Medicare doesn't cover custodial care if it's the only care you need.**

Part A may cover skilled nursing care in a nursing home. It must be medically necessary for you to get skilled nursing care (like if you need help changing sterile dressings).

### More information

- Go to “Home health services” on pages 51–52.
- Go to “Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care” on pages 100–102.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/nursing-home-care](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/nursing-home-care).



## Obesity behavioral therapy

Obesity behavioral therapy includes an initial screening for body mass index (BMI), and behavioral therapy sessions that include a dietary assessment and counseling to help you lose weight by focusing on diet and exercise. Medicare covers obesity screenings and behavioral counseling if you have a BMI of 30 or more. Medicare covers this counseling if your primary care doctor or other primary care practitioner gives the counseling in a primary care setting (like a doctor's office), where they can coordinate your personalized plan with your other care.

### Costs

You pay nothing for this service if your primary care practitioner accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/obesity-behavioral-therapy](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/obesity-behavioral-therapy).

## Observation services

Go to “Outpatient hospital services” on page 81.

## Occupational therapy

Occupational therapy helps you perform activities of daily living (like dressing or bathing). You can get this therapy to help improve or maintain your current capabilities, or slow decline. Part B covers medically necessary outpatient occupational therapy if your doctor or other health care provider (including a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant) certifies you need it.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

There’s no limit on how much Medicare pays for your medically necessary outpatient occupational therapy services in one calendar year.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/occupational-therapy-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/occupational-therapy-services).

## Opioid use disorder treatment services

Part B covers opioid use disorder treatment services in opioid treatment programs.

These services include:

- Medication (like methadone, buprenorphine, naltrexone, and naloxone)
- Substance use counseling
- Drug testing
- Individual and group therapy
- Intake activities
- Periodic assessments
- Intensive outpatient programs

### Costs

If you have Original Medicare, you won’t have to pay any copayments for these services if you get them from an opioid treatment program provider who’s enrolled in Medicare and meets other requirements. However, the Part B deductible still applies.

## Opioid use disorder treatment services (continued)

### Things to know

- Talk to your doctor or other health care provider to find out where you can go for these services.
- Medicare covers counseling, therapy, and periodic assessments both in person and, in certain circumstances, by virtual delivery (using audio and video communication technology, like your phone or a computer). Medicare also covers services given through opioid treatment program mobile units.
- Medicare Advantage Plans must also cover opioid treatment program services, but may require that you go to an in-network opioid treatment program. If you join a Medicare Advantage Plan when you're already getting treatment, your opioid treatment program must participate with your plan and be Medicare-enrolled to make sure your treatment is covered and stays uninterrupted. If not, you may have to switch to a Medicare-enrolled opioid treatment program that participates with your plan. Since Medicare Advantage Plans can apply copayments to opioid treatment program services, check with your plan to find out if you have to pay a copayment.

### More information

- Go to “Mental health & substance use disorder services” on page 73.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/opioid-use-disorder-treatment-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/opioid-use-disorder-treatment-services).

## Organ transplants

### Part A covers:

- Necessary tests, labs, and exams

Generally, Part A also covers:

- Services for heart, lung, kidney, pancreas, intestine, and liver transplants
- The costs of finding the proper organ for your transplant surgery

### Part B covers:

- Doctors' services associated with heart, lung, kidney, pancreas, intestine, and liver transplants
- Immunosuppressive (transplant) drugs in certain circumstances

## Organ transplants (continued)

### Costs

For your transplant and related services, you pay:

- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Part B services, after you meet the Part B deductible.
- Nothing for the services provided to the donor for a kidney transplant.
- Nothing for Medicare-certified laboratory tests.

For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57.

### Things to know

- You must get an organ transplant in a Medicare-approved facility.
- If you’re thinking about joining a Medicare Advantage Plan and are on a transplant waiting list or think you need a transplant, check with the plan before you join to make sure your doctors, other health care providers, and hospitals are in the plan’s network. Also, check the plan’s rules for prior authorization.
- Medicare doesn’t pay for transportation to a transplant facility.

### More information

- Kidney transplants for adults: Go to “Kidney transplants” on pages 60–61.
- Kidney transplants for children: Go to “Kidney transplants (children)” on pages 61–62.
- Other transplants: Go to “Other transplants” on page 80.
- Transplant/immunosuppressive drugs: Go to “Prescription drugs (outpatient)” on pages 86–88.
- Pancreas transplants: Go to “Pancreas transplants” on page 84.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/organ-transplants](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/organ-transplants).

## Orthopedic shoes

Medicare covers orthopedic shoes if they’re a necessary part of a leg brace.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

## Orthopedic shoes (continued)

### Things to know

For Medicare to cover your orthopedic shoes, you must go to a Medicare-enrolled supplier. Medicare will only pay for orthotic items from a Medicare-enrolled supplier, no matter who submits the claim (you or your supplier).

### More information

- Go to “Therapeutic shoes or inserts” on page 107.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/orthopedic-shoes](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/orthopedic-shoes).

## Osteoporosis drugs

Part A and Part B help pay for osteoporosis injectable drugs and visits by a home health nurse to give you the injections if you meet all these conditions:

You’re a woman with osteoporosis who:

- Meets the criteria for Medicare home health services. Go to “Home health services” on pages 51–52.
- Has a bone fracture that a doctor or other health care provider certifies is related to postmenopausal osteoporosis.
- Has a health care provider who certifies that you can’t give yourself the injection or learn how to give yourself the injection, and your family members or caregivers are unable and unwilling to give you the injection.

### Costs

- In most cases, after you meet the Part B deductible, you pay up to 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for covered Part B prescription drugs. Your coinsurance amount can change depending on the drug’s price. You might pay a lower coinsurance amount for certain Part B-covered drugs and biologicals you get in a doctor’s office, pharmacy, or outpatient setting, if their prices have gone up faster than the rate of inflation. The specific drugs and potential savings change every quarter.
- You pay nothing for the home health nurse visit to inject the drug.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/osteoporosis-drugs](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/osteoporosis-drugs).

## Ostomy supplies

Part B covers medically necessary ostomy supplies if you've had a colostomy, ileostomy, or urinary ostomy. Medicare covers the amount of supplies your doctor or other health care provider says you need, based on your condition.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor's services and supplies.

### Things to know

Medicare covers these supplies as prosthetic devices.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/ostomy-supplies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/ostomy-supplies).

## Other transplants

Under certain conditions, Medicare covers transplants that aren't organ transplants.

### Under certain conditions, Part A covers:

- Stem cell transplants
- Necessary tests, labs, and exams associated with the transplant

### Under certain conditions, Part B covers:

- Bone marrow transplants
- Cornea transplants

### Costs

For your transplant and related services, you pay:

- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Part B services, after you meet the Part B deductible.
- Nothing for Medicare-certified laboratory tests.

For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.

### Things to know

If you're thinking about joining a Medicare Advantage Plan and are on a transplant waiting list or think you need a transplant, check with the plan before you join to make sure your doctors, other health care providers, and hospitals are in the plan's network. Also, check the plan's rules for prior authorization.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/other-transplants](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/other-transplants).

## Outpatient hospital services

Part B covers many diagnostic and treatment services you get as an outpatient from a Medicare-participating hospital.

Covered outpatient hospital services may include:

- Emergency or observation services, which may include an overnight stay in the hospital, or services in an outpatient clinic (including same-day surgery).
- Laboratory tests billed by the hospital.
- Mental health care in a partial hospitalization program, if a doctor or other qualified mental health professional certifies that you'd need inpatient treatment without it. Go to "Mental health care (partial hospitalization)" on page 72.
- X-rays and other radiology services billed by the hospital.
- Medical supplies, like splints and casts.
- Preventive and screening services. Go to pages 89–90.
- Certain drugs and biologicals you wouldn't usually give yourself that you get as part of your service or procedure (like certain injectable drugs).

### Costs

- You usually pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for the doctor's or other health care provider's services. You may pay more for services you get in a hospital outpatient setting than you'd pay for the same care in a doctor's office. However, the hospital outpatient copayment for the service can't be more than the inpatient deductible amount.
- In addition to the amount you pay the health care provider, you'll also usually pay the hospital a copayment for each service you get in a hospital outpatient setting, except for certain preventive services that don't have a copayment. In most cases, the copayment can't be more than the Part A hospital stay deductible for each service. If you get hospital outpatient services in a critical access hospital, your copayment may be higher and may exceed the Part A hospital stay deductible.
- The Part B deductible applies, except for certain preventive services.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/outpatient-hospital-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/outpatient-hospital-services).
- To get cost estimates for outpatient surgical procedures in certain settings, visit [Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup](https://www.Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup).

## Outpatient medical & surgical services & supplies

Part B covers approved outpatient services and supplies, like X-rays, casts, stitches, or outpatient surgeries.

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for doctor or other health care provider services. You also generally pay a copayment for each service you get in a hospital outpatient setting. In most cases, the copayment can't be more than the Part A hospital stay deductible for each service you get. The Part B deductible applies, and you pay all costs for items or services that Medicare doesn't cover.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/outpatient-medical-surgical-services-supplies](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/outpatient-medical-surgical-services-supplies).

## Oxygen equipment & accessories

Part B covers the rental of oxygen equipment and accessories as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

If you own your own equipment, Medicare will help pay for oxygen contents and supplies for the delivery of oxygen when you meet all of these conditions:

- Your health care provider says you aren't getting enough oxygen.
- Your health might improve with oxygen therapy.
- Your arterial blood gas level falls within a certain range.

If you meet the conditions above, Medicare helps pay for:

- Systems that provide oxygen
- Containers that store oxygen
- Tubing and related supplies for the delivery of oxygen and oxygen contents

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### More information

- Go to "Durable medical equipment (DME)" on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/oxygen-equipment-accessories](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/oxygen-equipment-accessories).

## Pain management

Part B covers these services that may help you manage your pain and related issues:

- Acupuncture for chronic low back pain. Go to page 6.
- Alcohol misuse screenings & counseling. Go to page 8.
- Behavioral health integration services. Go to pages 11-12.
- Chiropractic services. Go to page 19.
- Chronic pain management & treatment services. Go to page 20.
- Depression screenings. Go to page 31.
- Mental health & substance use disorder services. Go to page 73.
- Occupational therapy. Go to page 76.
- Opioid use disorder treatment services. Go to pages 76-77.
- Physical therapy. Go to page 85.

If you have a Medicare drug plan (Part D), the plan may also have programs in place (like Medication Therapy Management Programs or Drug Management Programs) to help you use prescription opioid pain medications more safely. Visit [Medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d/what-drug-plans-cover/medication-therapy-management-programs-for-complex-health-needs](https://www.medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d/what-drug-plans-cover/medication-therapy-management-programs-for-complex-health-needs).

### Costs

- For most pain management services, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for visits to your doctor or other health care provider to diagnose or treat your condition. The Part B deductible applies.
- If you get your services in a hospital outpatient clinic or hospital outpatient department, you may have to pay an additional copayment or coinsurance amount to the hospital.
- You pay nothing for a yearly depression screening if your doctor or health care provider accepts assignment.

### Things to know

There may be other ways to manage your pain. Your health care provider may recommend treatment options that Medicare doesn't cover, like massage therapy. If this happens, or if your health care provider recommends you get services more often than Medicare covers, you may have to pay some or all of the costs. Ask questions so you understand why your health care provider is recommending certain services and if Medicare will pay for them.

## Pain management (continued)

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/pain-management](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/pain-management).

## Pancreas transplants

Medicare covers pancreas transplants under certain conditions. If you have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and need a pancreas transplant, Medicare covers the transplant if it's done at the same time or after you get a kidney transplant.

In some cases, Medicare may also cover a pancreas transplant even if you don't need a kidney transplant.

### Costs

You pay:

- 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for Part B services, after you meet the Part B deductible.
- Nothing for Medicare-approved laboratory tests.

For Part A hospital inpatient cost information, go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.

### Things to know

If you're thinking about joining a Medicare Advantage Plan and are on a transplant waiting list or think you need a transplant, check with the plan before you join to make sure your doctors, other health care providers, and hospitals are in the plan's network. Also, check the plan's rules for prior authorization.

### More information

- Other types of Medicare-covered transplants: Go to "Kidney transplants" on pages 60–61, "Kidney transplants (children)" on pages 61–62, "Organ transplants" on pages 77–78, and "Other transplants" on page 80.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/pancreas-transplants](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/pancreas-transplants).

 **Pap tests**

Go to “Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings” on page 18.

**Patient lifts**

Part B covers patient lifts as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

**More information**

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/patient-lifts](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/patient-lifts).

**Pediatric dialysis**

Go to “Dialysis (children)” on page 36.

**PET scans**

Go to “Diagnostic non-laboratory tests” on page 35.

**Physical therapy services**

Physical therapy helps to restore or improve physical movement in your body after an injury, illness, or surgery. You can also get this therapy to help improve or maintain your current function, or slow decline. Part B covers outpatient physical therapy services when your doctor or other health care provider (including a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant) certifies you need them.

**Costs**

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

**Things to know**

There’s no limit on how much Medicare pays for your medically necessary outpatient physical therapy services in one calendar year.

**More information**

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/physical-therapy-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/physical-therapy-services).

## Pneumococcal shots

Part B covers pneumococcal shots (or vaccines) to help protect against different strains of the bacteria that cause pneumonia. Talk with your doctor or other health care provider to decide which immunizations are right for you.

### Costs

You pay nothing for pneumococcal shots if your health care provider accepts assignment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/pneumococcal-shots](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/pneumococcal-shots).

## Power wheelchairs

Go to “Wheelchairs & scooters” on page 111.

## Prescription drugs (outpatient)

Part B covers a limited number of outpatient prescription drugs under certain conditions. Usually, Part B covers drugs you wouldn't typically give to yourself, like those you get at a doctor's office or in a hospital outpatient setting.

Here are some examples of Part B-covered drugs:

- **Drugs used with some types of durable medical equipment (DME):** Medicare covers drugs infused through DME (like an infusion pump or nebulizer), if the drug used is reasonable and necessary.
- **Some antigens:** Medicare covers antigens if a doctor or other health care provider prepares them and they're given by a properly instructed person (who could be you, the patient) under appropriate supervision.
- **Injectable osteoporosis drugs:** Go to “Osteoporosis drugs” on page 79.
- **Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents:** Medicare covers erythropoietin by injection if you have End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) or you need this drug to treat anemia related to certain other conditions.
- **Blood clotting factors:** If you have hemophilia, Medicare covers injectable clotting factors you give yourself.
- **Injectable and infused drugs:** When a licensed medical provider gives them, Medicare covers most injectable and infused drugs.

## Prescription drugs (outpatient) (continued)

- **Oral End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) drugs:** Medicare covers some oral ESRD drugs if the same drug comes in an injectable form and the Part B ESRD benefit covers it.

**Note:** Part B covers calcimimetic medications (including the intravenous medication Parsabiv, and the oral medication Sensipar). Your ESRD facility is responsible for giving you these medications either at the facility or through a pharmacy they work with. You'll need to talk to your ESRD facility staff and your health care provider to find out where you'll get these medications and how much you'll pay.

- **Parenteral and enteral nutrition (intravenous and tube feeding):** Medicare covers certain nutrients if you can't absorb nutrition through your intestinal tract or take food by mouth.
- **Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIG):** Medicare covers IVIG you get at home if you've been diagnosed with primary immune deficiency disease, and your health care provider decides that it's medically appropriate for you. Beginning January 1, 2024, Part B also pays for other items and services related to you getting the IVIG at home.
- **Shots (vaccinations):** Medicare covers flu shots, pneumococcal shots, and COVID-19 vaccines. Medicare also covers Hepatitis B shots for certain people, and some other vaccines when they're directly related to treating an injury or illness.
- **Transplant/immunosuppressive drugs:** Medicare covers transplant drug therapy if Medicare helped pay for your organ transplant. You must have Part A at the time of the covered transplant, and you must have Part B at the time you get immunosuppressive drugs.

If you only have Medicare because of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), your Medicare coverage (including immunosuppressive drug coverage) ends 36 months after a successful kidney transplant. Medicare offers a benefit that helps you pay for your immunosuppressive drugs beyond 36 months if you don't have certain types of other health coverage (like a group health plan, TRICARE, or Medicaid that covers immunosuppressive drugs). **This benefit only covers your immunosuppressive drugs and no other items or services. It isn't a substitute for full health coverage.** If you qualify, you can sign up for this benefit any time after your Part A coverage ends. To sign up, call Social Security at 1-877-465-0355. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0788.

- **Oral cancer drugs:** Medicare covers some cancer drugs you take by mouth if the same drug is available in an injectable form, or it's a prodrug of the injectable drug. A prodrug is an oral form of a drug that, when ingested, breaks down into the same active ingredient found in the injectable drug.

## Prescription drugs (outpatient) (continued)

- **Oral anti-nausea drugs:** Medicare covers oral anti-nausea drugs you get as part of a cancer chemotherapeutic regimen if you take them before, during, or within 48 hours of chemotherapy, or you get them as a full therapeutic replacement for an intravenous anti-nausea drug.
- **Self-administered drugs in hospital outpatient settings:** Under very limited circumstances, Medicare may pay for some self-administered drugs if you need them for the hospital outpatient services you're getting.
- **Monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of early Alzheimer's disease:** Go to "Monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of early Alzheimer's disease" on page 73.

### Costs

- Doctors, other health care providers, and pharmacies must accept assignment for Part B-covered drugs, so they should never ask you to pay more than the coinsurance or copayment for the Part B drug itself.
- In most cases, after you meet the Part B deductible, you pay up to 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for covered Part B prescription drugs.
  - Your coinsurance amount can sometimes change depending on your prescription drug's price.
  - You might pay a lower coinsurance for certain Part B-covered drugs and biologicals you get in a doctor's office, pharmacy, or outpatient setting, if their prices have gone up faster than the rate of inflation. The specific drugs and potential savings change every quarter.
- If you get non-covered prescription drugs in a hospital outpatient setting, you pay 100% of the cost of the drugs, unless you have other drug coverage. If you have other coverage (like Part D), what you pay depends on whether your plan covers the drug, and if the hospital's pharmacy is in your plan's network. Contact your plan to find out what you'll pay.
- You pay nothing (and the Part B deductible doesn't apply) for COVID-19 vaccines, or for flu, pneumococcal, and Hepatitis B (for those at intermediate or high risk) shots.
- For immunosuppressive drugs, you'll pay a monthly premium of \$103 (or higher based on your income) and a \$240 deductible in 2024. Once you've met the deductible, you'll pay up to 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your immunosuppressive drugs.

### Things to know

Medicare drug plans (Part D) cover many drugs that Part B doesn't cover. If you have Original Medicare, you can join a Medicare drug plan to get Medicare drug coverage. If you join a Medicare drug plan, check your plan's drug list (also called a formulary) to find out what outpatient drugs it covers.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/prescription-drugs-outpatient](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/prescription-drugs-outpatient).

## Pressure-reducing support surfaces

Pressure-reducing support surfaces include certain beds (like air-fluidized beds), mattresses, and mattress overlays that prevent or treat pressure sores or ulcers. Part B covers pressure-reducing support surfaces as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home. You'll have to get prior approval for certain types of pressure-reducing support services (like powered air flotation beds).

### Costs

For cost information, go to "Durable Medical Equipment (DME)" on pages 39–40.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/pressure-reducing-support-surfaces](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/pressure-reducing-support-surfaces).



## Preventive & screening services

Part B covers many preventive and screening services that can help you stay healthy, detect health problems early, determine the most effective treatments, and prevent certain diseases. Each covered preventive service in this booklet has a picture of an apple next to it. Talk with your doctor or other health care provider about which preventive services are right for you.

Preventive services include exams, shots, lab tests, and screenings. They also include programs for health monitoring, and counseling and education to help you take care of your own health.

### Here's a list of preventive and screening services Part B covers:

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm screenings: Go to pages 5–6.
- Alcohol misuse screenings & counseling: Go to page 8.
- Bone mass measurements: Go to pages 13–14.
- Cardiovascular behavioral therapy: Go to page 16.
- Cardiovascular disease screenings: Go to page 16.
- Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings: Go to page 18.
- Colorectal cancer screenings: Go to page 23.
- Counseling to prevent tobacco use & tobacco-caused disease: Go to page 26.
- Depression screenings: Go to page 31.
- Diabetes screenings: Go to pages 31–32.
- Diabetes self-management training: Go to pages 32–33.
- Glaucoma screenings: Go to page 47.
- Hepatitis B shots: Go to page 49.

## Preventive & screening services (continued)

- Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) infection screenings: Go to pages 49–50.
- Hepatitis C screening tests: Go to page 50.
- HIV screenings: Go to page 51.
- Lung cancer screenings: Go to page 64.
- Mammograms: Go to pages 65–66.
- Medical nutrition therapy services: Go to page 66.
- Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program: Go to pages 67–68.
- Obesity behavioral therapy: Go to page 75.
- Preventive visits: Go to pages 90–92.
- Prostate cancer screenings: Go to page 94.
- Sexually transmitted infection screenings & counseling: Go to page 99.
- Shots (or vaccines): Go to page 100.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services).



## Preventive visits

### “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit

Part B covers one “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit within the first 12 months you have Part B. **This “Welcome to Medicare” visit isn’t a physical exam.** During this visit, your doctor or other health care provider will:

- Review your medical and social history related to your health.
- Give you information about preventive services, including certain screenings, shots, or vaccines (like flu, pneumococcal, and other recommended immunizations).
- Review your potential risk factors for substance use disorder (like alcohol and tobacco use), and refer you for treatment, if needed.
- Give you referrals for other care as needed.
- Calculate your body mass index (BMI).
- Give you a simple vision test.
- Review your potential risk for depression.
- Offer to talk with you about creating advance directives. Advance directives are legal documents that record your wishes about future medical treatment, in case you’re ever unable to make decisions about your care.
- Give you a written plan (like a checklist) letting you know what screenings, shots, and other preventive services you need.

## Preventive visits (continued)

If you have a current prescription for opioids, your provider will also:

- Review your potential risk factors for opioid use disorder.
- Evaluate your pain level and current treatment plan.
- Give you information on non-opioid treatment options.
- Refer you to a specialist, if appropriate.

### Costs

You pay nothing for the visit if your doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment. The Part B deductible doesn't apply. However, you may have to pay a coinsurance, and the Part B deductible may apply if your health care provider performs additional tests or services during your visit that Medicare doesn't cover under this preventive visit. If Medicare doesn't cover the additional tests or services (like a routine physical exam), you may have to pay the full amount.

### Things to know

When you make your appointment, let your doctor's office know you would like to schedule your "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/welcome-to-medicare-preventive-visit](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/welcome-to-medicare-preventive-visit).

### Yearly "Wellness" visits

If you've had Part B for longer than 12 months, you can get a yearly "Wellness" visit to develop or update your personalized plan to help prevent disease and disability, based on your current health and risk factors. During your visit, your doctor or other health care provider will also perform a cognitive impairment assessment. **This yearly "Wellness" visit isn't a physical exam.**

### How often

Once every 12 months. Your first yearly "Wellness" visit can't take place within 12 months of your Part B enrollment or your "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit. However, you don't need to have had a "Welcome to Medicare" preventive visit to qualify for a yearly "Wellness" visit.

### Costs

You pay nothing for this visit if your health care provider accepts assignment. The Part B deductible doesn't apply. However, you may have to pay a coinsurance, and the Part B deductible may apply if your health care provider performs additional tests or services during your visit that Medicare doesn't cover under this preventive visit.

**If Medicare doesn't cover the additional tests or services (like a routine physical exam), you may have to pay the full amount.**

## Preventive visits (continued)

### Things to know

Your health care provider will ask you to fill out a questionnaire, called a “Health Risk Assessment,” as part of this visit. Answering the questions can help you and your doctor develop or update a personalized prevention plan to help you stay healthy and get the most out of your visit.

Your visit may include:

- Routine measurements (like height, weight, and blood pressure)
- Health advice
- A review of your medical and family history
- A review of your current prescriptions
- Advance care planning
- A screening schedule (like a checklist) for appropriate preventive services
- An optional “Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessment” to help your provider understand your social needs and their impact on your treatment

Your health care provider will also perform a cognitive assessment to look for signs of dementia, including Alzheimer’s disease. Signs of cognitive impairment include trouble remembering, learning new things, concentrating, managing finances, and making decisions about your everyday life. If your health care provider thinks you may have cognitive impairment, Medicare covers a separate visit to do a more thorough review of your cognitive function and check for conditions like dementia, depression, anxiety, or delirium. Go to “Cognitive assessment & care plan services” on pages 21–22. Your provider may order other tests, if necessary, depending on your general health and medical history.

Your health care provider will also evaluate your potential risk factors for substance use disorder and refer you for treatment, if needed. If you use opioid medication, your provider will review your pain treatment plan, share information on non-opioid treatment options, and refer you to a specialist, as appropriate.

### More information

- Go to “Social determinants of health risk assessment” on pages 102–103.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/yearly-wellness-visits](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/yearly-wellness-visits).

## Principal care management services

Medicare covers disease-specific services to help manage your care for a single, complex chronic condition that puts you at risk of hospitalization, physical or cognitive decline, or death. If you have one chronic high-risk condition that you expect to last at least 3 months (like cancer) and you aren’t being treated for any other complex conditions, Medicare may pay for a health care provider’s help to manage your care for it.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

## Principal care management services (continued)

### Things to know

Your provider will create a disease-specific care plan and continuously monitor and update it, including any changes to the medicines you take.

### More information

- Go to “Principal illness navigation services” below.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/principal-care-management-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/principal-care-management-services).

## Principal illness navigation services

Principal illness navigation is a type of care management that helps patients understand their medical condition or diagnosis and guides them through the health care system. Part B covers principal illness navigation services if you have a serious condition that’s expected to last at least 3 months (like cancer, HIV, or substance use disorder) and puts you at a high risk for one or more of the following:

- Hospitalization
- Nursing home placement
- A sudden worsening of preexisting symptoms
- Physical or mental decline
- Death

### How often

You must have an initial visit with your doctor or other health care provider before you can start getting principal illness navigation services. After your initial visit, you can get navigation services monthly for as long as you need them through the rest of the year. After a year, you’ll need another initial visit if you continue to need these services.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

- Your provider or their staff can give you the navigation services or refer you to other trained personnel (including patient navigators or peer support specialists) for the services.
- If you have more than one serious condition, you can get principal illness navigation services for each condition. For example, if you’re getting navigation services for substance use disorder and then you’re diagnosed with cancer, you can get navigation services for both conditions.

### More information

- Go to “Principal care management services” above.
- Go to “Chronic care management services” on page 20.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/principal-illness-navigation-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/principal-illness-navigation-services).

## Prostate cancer screenings

Part B covers digital rectal exams and prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood tests for men over 50 (starting the day after your 50th birthday).

### How often

Once every 12 months.

### Costs

- **Digital rectal exams:** After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for a yearly digital rectal exam and for your doctor's services related to the exam. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a separate hospital visit copayment.
- **PSA blood tests:** You pay nothing for a yearly PSA blood test. If you get the test from a doctor or other health care provider that doesn't accept assignment, you may have to pay an additional fee for your doctor's services, but not for the test itself.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/prostate-cancer-screenings](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/prostate-cancer-screenings).

## Prosthetic devices

Part B covers prosthetic devices needed to replace a body part or function when a Medicare-enrolled doctor or other health care provider orders them. Examples of prosthetic devices include:

- Breast prostheses (including a surgical bra). Go to "Breast prostheses" on page 14.
- One pair of conventional eyeglasses or contact lenses provided after a covered cataract surgery. Go to "Cataract surgery" on pages 17-18.
- Ostomy bags and certain related supplies. Go to "Ostomy supplies" on page 80.
- Some surgically implanted prosthetic devices, including cochlear implants.
- Urological supplies.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for external prosthetic devices.

### Things to know

For Medicare to pay for your prosthetic device, you must go to a Medicare-enrolled supplier. This is true no matter who submits the claim (you or your provider). Either Part A or Part B covers a surgically implanted prosthetic device, depending on whether the surgery takes place in an inpatient or outpatient setting.

## Prosthetic devices (continued)

### More information

- Go to “Inpatient hospital care” on pages 56–57 for Part A-covered surgeries to implant prosthetic devices in a hospital inpatient setting.
- Go to “Outpatient hospital services” on page 81 for Part B-covered surgeries to implant prosthetic devices in a hospital outpatient setting.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/prosthetic-devices](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/prosthetic-devices).

## Pulmonary rehabilitation programs

Pulmonary rehabilitation programs help you breathe better, get stronger, and live more independently. Part B covers a comprehensive pulmonary rehabilitation program if:

- You have moderate to very severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and have a referral from the doctor who’s treating it.
- You’ve had confirmed or suspected COVID-19 and experience persistent symptoms that include respiratory dysfunction for at least 4 weeks.

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount if you get the service in your doctor’s office. You also pay a copayment per session if you get the service in a hospital outpatient setting. The Part B deductible applies.

### Things to know

You can get these services in a doctor’s office or a hospital outpatient setting that offers pulmonary rehabilitation programs.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/pulmonary-rehabilitation-programs](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/pulmonary-rehabilitation-programs).

## Radiation therapy

Part A covers radiation therapy for hospital inpatients. Part B covers this therapy for outpatients or patients in freestanding clinics.

### Costs

- If you’re an inpatient, you pay the Part A deductible and coinsurance (if applicable).
- If you’re an outpatient or in a freestanding clinic, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for the therapy after you meet the Part B deductible.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/radiation-therapy](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/radiation-therapy).

## Rectal exams

Go to “Prostate cancer screenings” on page 94.

## Religious nonmedical health care institution items & services

Religious nonmedical health care institutions provide care and services to people who don't accept standard medical care because of their religious beliefs. Medicare may cover items and services in religious nonmedical health care institutions only if you qualify for inpatient hospital or skilled nursing facility (SNF) care. Medicare will only cover the inpatient non-religious, nonmedical items and services, like room and board, unmedicated wound dressings, or use of a simple walker (items or services that don't require a doctor's order or prescription).

Medicare doesn't cover the religious portion of this type of care. However, Part A covers inpatient non-religious, nonmedical care when all of these conditions apply:

- You get the care from a Medicare-certified religious nonmedical health care institution.
- The religious nonmedical health care institution's Utilization Review Committee agrees that you would require hospital or SNF care if you weren't in the institution.
- You've filed a written election with Medicare that states:
  - You qualify for this type of care based on both your medical needs and religious beliefs.
  - Your election will be cancelled if you decide to accept standard medical care. After cancelling an election, you may have to wait 1–5 years (depending on how many times you may have previously cancelled your election) before you qualify to get religious nonmedical health care services again. You're always eligible to get medically necessary Part A services.

**Note:** Getting the COVID-19 vaccine no longer automatically revokes your election to get religious nonmedical health care services. If you previously had your election revoked because you got the COVID-19 vaccine, you're immediately eligible for a new election. Any previous revocation for the COVID-19 vaccine won't count against the waiting period for your future elections.

## Religious nonmedical health care institution items & services (continued)

### Costs

You pay this for each benefit period in 2024:

- Days 1–60: \$1,632 deductible.
- Days 61–90: \$408 each day.
- Days 91 and beyond: \$816 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days.
- Each day after you use all of your lifetime reserve days: All costs.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/religious-nonmedical-health-care-institution-items-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/religious-nonmedical-health-care-institution-items-services).

## Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Shot

RSV is a respiratory virus that causes cold-like symptoms. People 65 and older are at high risk of having serious health complications from RSV. Getting the RSV shot can protect you from getting RSV.

Medicare drug coverage (Part D) covers the RSV shot (not Part A or Part B).

### Costs

- People with Part D usually pay nothing out of pocket for most vaccines, including the RSV shot.
- Part D covers all vaccines that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends, including vaccines for RSV, shingles, whooping cough, and more. Your Part D plan won't charge you a copayment or deductible for vaccines ACIP recommends.

**Note:** If the RSV shot isn't on your plan's drug list (formulary) yet, you can ask the plan for a coverage exception. You can also pay for the shot out of pocket, and then follow-up with your plan to get reimbursed. If you pay for the shot upfront, your plan must pay you back.

### Things to know

- Adults 60 and older with hematologic disorders like sickle cell disease may benefit from getting the RSV shot.
- You can get the RSV shot in many places, including your doctor's office and your local pharmacy. If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan, contact your plan to find out where you can go to get the RSV shot. Only Medicare Advantage Plans that include drug coverage (Part D) will cover Part D benefits like the RSV shot.
- It's safe to get the RSV shot with other vaccines, like a COVID-19 vaccine or flu shot.

### More information

- Contact your Medicare drug plan.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-shot](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/respiratory-syncytial-virus-rsv-shot).

## Respite care

Go to “Hospice care” on pages 53–54.

## Rural Health Clinic services

Part B covers a broad range of outpatient primary care and preventive services in Rural Health Clinics.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you generally pay 20% of the charges. You pay nothing for most preventive services.

### Things to know

Rural Health Clinics are located in non-urbanized areas. These clinics provide outpatient primary care and preventive health services to people located in medically underserved or shortage areas.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/rural-health-clinic-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/rural-health-clinic-services).

## Scooters

Go to “Wheelchairs & scooters” on page 111.

## Second surgical opinions

A second opinion is when another doctor or health care provider gives their view about your health problem and how it should be treated. In some cases, Part B covers a second surgical opinion for medically necessary, non-emergency surgery. Medicare also covers a third surgical opinion if the first and second opinions are different.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount. The second doctor or health care provider may ask you to get additional tests as a result of the visit. Medicare will cover these tests, just as it covers other services that are medically necessary. If the second opinion is different from the first opinion, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for a third opinion.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/second-surgical-opinions](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/second-surgical-opinions).



## Sexually transmitted infection screenings & counseling

Part B covers sexually transmitted infection screenings for chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and/or Hepatitis B if you're pregnant or at increased risk for a sexually transmitted infection.

Medicare also covers up to 2 face-to-face, high-intensity behavioral counseling sessions if you're a sexually active adult at increased risk for these infections. Each session can be 20–30 minutes long.

### How often

Medicare covers sexually transmitted infection screenings once every 12 months, or at certain times during pregnancy. Medicare covers up to 2 behavioral counseling sessions each year.

### Costs

You pay nothing for these services if your primary care doctor or other health care provider accepts assignment.

### Things to know

Your health care provider must order the screening or refer you for behavioral counseling. Medicare will only cover counseling sessions with a health care provider in a primary care setting (like a doctor's office). Medicare won't cover counseling as a preventive service in an inpatient setting (like a skilled nursing facility).

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/sexually-transmitted-infection-screenings-counseling](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/sexually-transmitted-infection-screenings-counseling).

## Shingles shots

Medicare drug coverage (Part D) covers the shingles shot (not Part A or Part B).

### Costs

- People with Part D usually pay nothing out of pocket for most vaccines, including the shingles shot.
- Part D covers all vaccines that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends, including the vaccines for shingles, RSV, whooping cough, and more. Your Part D plan won't charge you a copayment or apply a deductible for vaccines ACIP recommends.

### More information

- Contact your Medicare drug plan.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/shingles-shots](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/shingles-shots).

## Shots (or vaccines)

Part B covers:

- COVID-19 vaccines: Go to pages 28–29.
- Flu shots: Go to page 45.
- Hepatitis B shots: Go to page 49.
- Pneumococcal shots: Go to page 86.
- Some other vaccines (like tetanus) when they're related directly to the treatment of an injury or illness. These aren't considered preventive services.

Medicare drug coverage (Part D) covers all vaccines that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends, including the vaccines for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), shingles, whooping cough, and more. Your Part D plan won't charge you a copayment or apply a deductible for vaccines ACIP recommends. Contact your Medicare drug plan for details and talk to your provider about which ones are right for you.

## Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care

Skilled care is nursing and therapy care that can only be safely and effectively performed by, or under the supervision of, professionals or technical personnel. It's health care you get when you need skilled nursing or skilled therapy to treat, manage, and observe your condition, and evaluate your care.

Part A covers skilled nursing facility care for a limited time if you meet all of these conditions:

- You have Part A and have days left in your benefit period to use.
- You have a qualifying inpatient hospital stay. This means a prior medically necessary inpatient hospital stay of 3 consecutive days or more, starting with the day the hospital admits you as an inpatient, but not including the day you leave the hospital. Time you spend at the hospital under observation or in the emergency room before you're admitted doesn't count toward the 3-day qualifying inpatient hospital stay, even if you're there overnight. You must enter the SNF within a short time (usually 30 days) of leaving the hospital.
- Your doctor or other health care provider has decided that you need daily skilled care (like intravenous fluids/medications or physical therapy). You must get the care from, or under the supervision of, skilled nursing or therapy staff.
- You get these skilled services in a Medicare-certified SNF.

## Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care (continued)

- You need skilled services for one of these:
  - An ongoing condition that was also treated during your qualifying inpatient hospital stay (even if it wasn't the reason you were admitted to the hospital).
  - A new condition that started while you were getting SNF care for the ongoing condition.

Medicare-covered services in a skilled nursing facility include, but aren't limited to:

- A semi-private room (a room you share with other patients).
- Meals.
- Skilled nursing care.
- Occupational and physical therapy, if they're needed to meet your health goal. Go to "Occupational therapy" on page 76 and "Physical therapy services" on page 85.
- Speech-language pathology services, if they're needed to meet your health goal. Go to page 103.
- Medical social services.
- Medications.
- Medical supplies and equipment used in the facility.
- Ambulance transportation (when other transportation could endanger your health) to the nearest supplier of needed services that you can't get at the SNF.
- Dietary counseling.

### How often

Medicare covers certain daily skilled nursing facility services on a short-term basis.

### Costs

In 2024, you pay these amounts for each benefit period:

- Days 1-20: \$0. (**Note:** If you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you may be charged copayments during the first 20 days. Check with your plan for more information.)
- Days 21-100: \$204 each day.
- After day 100: You pay all costs.

Part A limits SNF coverage to 100 days in each benefit period.

## Skilled nursing facility (SNF) care (continued)

### Things to know

- You may get skilled nursing care or therapy if it's necessary to improve or maintain your current condition, or to prevent or delay it from getting worse.
- If you disagree with your discharge for any reason, you can appeal.
- You may not need a 3-day minimum inpatient hospital stay if your doctor participates in an Accountable Care Organization (ACO), or another type of Medicare initiative approved for a Skilled Nursing Facility 3-Day Rule Waiver. If your provider participates in an ACO, check with them to find out what benefits may be available. Medicare Advantage Plans may also waive the 3-day minimum. Contact your plan for more information.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/skilled-nursing-facility-snf-care](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/skilled-nursing-facility-snf-care).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/manage-your-health/coordinating-your-care/accountable-care-organizations](https://www.medicare.gov/manage-your-health/coordinating-your-care/accountable-care-organizations).

## Sleep studies

Part B covers Type I, II, III, and IV sleep tests and devices if you have clinical signs and symptoms of sleep apnea.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

Medicare only covers Type I tests if you get them in a sleep lab facility. Your doctor or other health care provider must order the sleep test.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/sleep-studies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/sleep-studies).

## Social determinants of health risk assessment

Social determinants of health are non-medical factors that can impact your health and quality of life, like your:

- Living environment
- Access to food
- Employment status
- Education and literacy levels
- Family circumstances

## Social determinants of health risk assessment (continued)

A social determinants of health risk assessment helps your provider understand your social needs to better treat you and refer you for appropriate services or supports. Part B covers this risk assessment when your doctor or other health care provider gives it to you during your yearly “Wellness” visit, or as part of another office or behavioral health visit.

### How often

You can get this risk assessment from your provider once every 6 months (or more often if you go to more than one provider).

### Costs

- You pay nothing for this risk assessment if you get it as part of your yearly “Wellness” visit.
- After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount if you get the risk assessment as part of another office or behavioral health visit.

### Things to know

If your provider finds that you have social determinants of health needs, you may be able to get Medicare-covered community health integration services and/or principal illness navigation services to address them.

### More information

- Go to “Community health integration services” on pages 23–24.
- Go to “Yearly Wellness visits” on pages 91–92.
- Go to “Principal illness navigation services” on page 93.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/social-determinants-of-health-risk-assessment](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/social-determinants-of-health-risk-assessment).

## Speech-language pathology services

Speech-language pathology services provide evaluation and treatment to regain and strengthen speech and language skills. This includes cognitive and swallowing skills, or therapy to improve or maintain current function or slow decline. Part B covers medically necessary outpatient speech-language pathology services if your doctor or other health care provider (including a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant) certifies you need it.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

There’s no limit on how much Medicare pays for your medically necessary outpatient speech-language pathology services in one calendar year.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/speech-language-pathology-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/speech-language-pathology-services).

## Supplies

Part B usually doesn't cover common medical supplies that you typically use at home, like bandages and gauze.

### Costs

You pay 100% for most common medical supplies you use at home.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/supplies](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/supplies).

## Surgery

Medicare covers many medically necessary inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures.

### Costs

For surgeries or procedures, it's hard to know the exact costs in advance. This is because you won't know what services you need until you meet with your provider. If you need surgery or a procedure, you may be able to estimate how much you'll have to pay. For help estimating costs on outpatient surgical procedures in certain settings, visit [Medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup](https://www.medicare.gov/procedure-price-lookup).

### More information

- Go to "Inpatient hospital care" on pages 56–57.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/surgery](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/surgery).

## Surgical dressing services

Part B covers medically necessary treatment of a surgical or surgically treated wound.

### Costs

You pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor or other health care provider's services, and you usually pay nothing additional for the supplies. You also pay a separate copayment for these services when you get them in a hospital outpatient setting. The Part B deductible applies.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/surgical-dressing-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/surgical-dressing-services).

## Swing bed services

Medicare covers swing bed services, which are skilled nursing facility (SNF) services you get in certain Medicare hospitals. A hospital or critical access hospital with a Medicare agreement can “swing” its beds and provide either acute hospital or SNF-level care, as needed.

### Costs

When swing beds provide SNF-level care, the same coverage and cost-sharing rules apply as though the services were provided in a SNF.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/swing-bed-services](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/swing-bed-services).

## Tdap shots

Tdap is the booster shot that protects against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (also called whooping cough). Medicare drug coverage (Part D) covers the Tdap shot (not Part A or Part B).

### Costs

- People with Part D usually pay nothing out of pocket for most vaccines, including the Tdap shot.

Part D covers all vaccines that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends, including the vaccines for Tdap, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), shingles, and more. Your Part D plan won't charge you a copayment or apply a deductible for vaccines ACIP recommends.

### More information

- Contact your Medicare Part D plan.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/tdap-shots](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/tdap-shots).

## Telehealth

Part B covers certain telehealth services. Telehealth includes medical or health services that you get from your doctor or other health care provider (including, through December 31, 2024, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and audiologists) who's located elsewhere (in the U.S.) using audio and video communications technology (or audio-only telehealth services in some cases), like your phone or a computer. You can get many of the same services that usually occur in-person as telehealth services, like psychotherapy and office visits.

Through December 31, 2024, you can get telehealth services at any location in the U.S., including your home. After this period, you must be in an office or medical facility located in a rural area (in the U.S.) for most telehealth services.

After December 31, 2024, you'll still be able to get certain Medicare telehealth services **without** being in a rural health care setting, including:

- Monthly End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) visits for home dialysis
- Services for diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of symptoms of an acute stroke wherever you are, including in a mobile stroke unit
- Services to treat a substance use disorder or a co-occurring mental health disorder (sometimes called a "dual disorder"), or for the diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment of a mental health disorder, including in your home
- Behavioral health services, including in your home
- Diabetes self-management training
- Medical nutrition therapy

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your health care provider's services. For most telehealth services, you'll pay the same amount that you would if you got the services in person.

### Things to know

Medicare Advantage Plans and some providers, like ones who are part of certain Medicare Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), may offer more telehealth benefits than Original Medicare. For example, you may be able to get some services from home, no matter where in the U.S. you live. Check with your plan to find out what benefits they offer. If your provider participates in an ACO, check with them to find out what telehealth benefits may be available.

### More information

- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/telehealth](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/telehealth).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/manage-your-health/coordinating-your-care/accountable-care-organizations](https://www.medicare.gov/manage-your-health/coordinating-your-care/accountable-care-organizations).

## Therapeutic shoes or inserts

Part B covers the furnishing and fitting of either custom shoes or inserts, or one pair of extra-depth shoes, if you have diabetes and severe diabetes-related foot disease.

Medicare also covers 2 additional pairs of inserts for custom-molded shoes and 3 pairs of inserts for extra-depth shoes. Medicare will cover shoe modifications instead of inserts.

### How often

Each calendar year, you can get either one pair of custom shoes or inserts, or one pair of extra depth shoes. You can also get either 2 or 3 additional pairs of inserts each calendar year, depending on your shoe type.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount.

### Things to know

The doctor or other health care provider who treats your diabetes must certify that you need therapeutic shoes or inserts. A podiatrist (foot doctor) or other doctor must prescribe them, and you must get them from a podiatrist, orthotist, prosthetist, pedorthist, or other qualified individual.

### More information

- Go to “Diabetes services” and “Diabetes supplies” on pages 33–34.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-shoes-inserts](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/therapeutic-shoes-inserts).

## Traction equipment

Part B covers traction equipment as durable medical equipment (DME) that your doctor or other health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/traction-equipment](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/traction-equipment).

## Transitional care management services

Medicare covers transitional care management services if you're returning to the community after an inpatient stay at certain facilities, like a hospital or skilled nursing facility. You'll also be able to get an in-person office visit within 2 weeks of your return home.

### Costs

You pay coinsurance and the Part B deductible.

### Things to know

The health care provider who's managing your transition back into the community will work with you, your family, caregivers, and other providers to coordinate and manage your care for the first 30 days after you return home.

The health care provider may also:

- Review information on the care you got in the facility.
- Provide information to help you transition back to living in the community.
- Help you with referrals or arrangements for follow-up care or community resources.
- Help you with scheduling.
- Manage your medications.

### More information

- Go to "Caregiver training services" on pages 16-17.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/transitional-care-management-services](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/transitional-care-management-services).

## Travel outside the U.S.

Medicare usually doesn't cover health care while you're traveling outside the U.S. There are some exceptions, including some cases where Part B may pay for services that you get on board a ship within the territorial waters adjoining the land areas of the U.S.

Medicare may pay for inpatient hospital, doctor, or ambulance services you get in a foreign country in these rare cases:

- You're in the U.S. when an emergency occurs and the foreign hospital is closer than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat your medical condition.
- You're traveling through Canada without unreasonable delay by the most direct route between Alaska and another U.S. state when a medical emergency occurs, and the Canadian hospital is closer than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat the emergency.
- You live in the U.S. and the foreign hospital is closer to your home than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat your medical condition, regardless of whether an emergency exists.

## Travel outside the U.S. (continued)

Medicare may cover medically necessary ambulance transportation to a foreign hospital only with admission for medically necessary covered inpatient hospital services.

### Costs

In most cases, you pay 100% of the costs. In the rare situations described above, you pay the same coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles you'd pay if you got the services or supplies inside the U.S.

### Things to know

The 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa are considered part of the U.S. Anywhere else is considered outside the U.S.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/travel-outside-the-u.s.](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/travel-outside-the-u.s)

## Urgently needed care

Part B covers urgently needed care to treat a sudden illness or injury that isn't a medical emergency.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your doctor or other health care provider's services. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a copayment.

### More information

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/urgently-needed-care.](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/urgently-needed-care)

## Vaccinations

Go to "Shots (or vaccines)" on page 100.

## **Vaginal cancer screenings**

Go to “Cervical & vaginal cancer screenings” on page 18.

### **Virtual check-ins**

Part B covers virtual check-ins (also called “brief communication technology-based services” or “e-visits”) with your doctor or certain other health care providers (like nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, physician assistants, or clinical social workers and clinical psychologists in specific circumstances).

These check-ins allow you to talk to your health care providers using audio and video communication technology (like your phone or a computer), without going to the doctor’s office. During a virtual check-in, your health care provider can:

- Conduct remote assessments using photo or video images you send for review to decide if you need to go to the doctor’s office.
- Respond to you using a phone, virtual delivery, secure text message, email, or a patient portal.

Medicare Advantage Plans may offer more virtual check-in services than Original Medicare. Check with your plan to find out what they offer.

### **Costs**

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount for your health care provider’s services.

### **Things to know**

You can have a virtual check-in if you meet these conditions:

- You talked to your health care provider about starting these types of services.
- The virtual check-in doesn’t relate to a medical visit you’ve had within the past 7 days, and doesn’t lead to a medical visit within the next 24 hours (or the soonest appointment available).
- You verbally consent to the virtual check-in, and your health care provider documents your consent in your medical record. Your health care provider may get one consent for a year’s worth of these services.

### **More information**

Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/virtual-check-ins](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage/virtual-check-ins).

## Walkers

Medicare Part B covers walkers, including rollators, as durable medical equipment (DME). The walker must be medically necessary, and your doctor or other health care provider must prescribe it for use in your home.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/walkers](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/walkers).

## Wheelchairs & scooters

Medicare Part B covers wheelchairs and power-operated vehicles (scooters) as durable medical equipment (DME) that your health care provider prescribes for use in your home.

You must have a face-to-face examination and a written prescription from a treating provider before Medicare covers a power wheelchair or scooter. Part B covers power wheelchairs and scooters only when they’re medically necessary.

### More information

- Go to “Durable medical equipment (DME)” on pages 39–40.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers](https://www.medicare.gov/medical-equipment-suppliers).
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/wheelchairs-scooters](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/wheelchairs-scooters).

## X-rays

Part B covers medically necessary diagnostic X-rays when your Medicare-enrolled treating doctor or other health care provider orders them.

### Costs

After you meet the Part B deductible, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount. In a hospital outpatient setting, you also pay a separate facility copayment.

### More information

- Go to “Diagnostic non-laboratory tests” on page 35.
- Visit [Medicare.gov/coverage/x-rays](https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/x-rays).

# CMS Accessible communications

Medicare provides free auxiliary aids and services, including information in accessible formats like braille, large print, data or audio files, relay services, and TTY communications. If you request information in an accessible format, you won't be disadvantaged by any additional time necessary to provide it. This means you'll get extra time to take any action if there's a delay in fulfilling your request.

To request Medicare or Marketplace information in an accessible format you can:

1. **Call us:**

For Medicare: 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

TTY: 1-877-486-2048

For Marketplace: 1-800-318-2596

TTY: 1-855-889-4325

2. **Email us:** [altformatrequest@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:altformatrequest@cms.hhs.gov)

3. **Send us a fax:** 1-844-530-3676

4. **Send us a letter:**

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Offices of Hearings and Inquiries (OHI)

7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop DO-01-20

Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Attn: Customer Accessibility Resource Staff (CARS)

Your request should include your name, phone number, type of information you need (if known), and the mailing address where we should send the materials. We may contact you for additional information.

**Note:** If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan or Medicare drug plan, contact your plan to request its information in an accessible format. For Medicaid, contact your state or local Medicaid office.

# Nondiscrimination Notice

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) doesn't exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or age in admission to, participation in, or receipt of the services and benefits under any of its programs and activities, whether carried out by CMS directly or through a contractor or any other entity with which CMS arranges to carry out its programs and activities.

You can contact CMS in any of the ways included in this notice if you have any concerns about getting information in a format that you can use.

You may also file a complaint if you think you've been subjected to discrimination in a CMS program or activity, including experiencing issues with getting information in an accessible format from any Medicare Advantage Plan, Medicare drug plan, state or local Medicaid office, or Marketplace Qualified Health Plans. There are 3 ways to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office for Civil Rights:

1. **Online:**

[HHS.gov/civil-rights/filing-a-complaint/complaint-process/index.html](https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/filing-a-complaint/complaint-process/index.html)

2. **By phone:**

Call 1-800-368-1019. TTY users can call 1-800-537-7697.

3. **In writing:** Send information about your complaint to:

Office for Civil Rights  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201









**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

7500 Security Blvd.  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

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This booklet is available in Spanish. To get a free copy, visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

Esta publicación está disponible en español. Para obtener una copia gratis, visite [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) o llame al 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Los usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 1-877-486-2048.



**Medicare**

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“Your Medicare Benefits” isn’t a legal document. Official Medicare Program legal guidance is contained in the relevant statutes, regulations, and rulings.

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