

Explanation of Home Health Homebound Waiver Benefit Enhancement

Your primary doctor is participating with PeaceHealth in a Medicare program called ACO REACH (Accountable Care Organization Realizing Equity, Access, and Community Health), formerly known as Direct Contracting.

Your Medicare benefits have not changed. You still have the freedom to go to any doctor, hospital, or other healthcare provider of your choice that accepts Medicare.

Because your doctor is part of this program, some enhanced benefits are available to you at no extra cost.

One of these enhanced benefits is expanded access to care with a Home Health Agency (HHA). Medicare refers to this as the “Home Health Homebound Waiver Benefit Enhancement.” Normally, Medicare only allows you to receive Home Health visits if you are “homebound”, defined as:

- You need the help of another person or medical equipment such as crutches, a walker, or a wheelchair.
OR
- Your doctor believes your health or illness could get worse if you leave your home.
AND
- It is difficult for you to leave your home.

Under the ACO REACH program, you may be able to receive visits from a Home Health agency for care even if you do not meet homebound criteria. You still have to meet Medicare’s other standard requirements for a Home Health visit.

To access this benefit, Medicare requires that you use a Home Health Agency that is a “preferred partner” in our ACO REACH program. We will provide you with a list of our preferred partner HHAs for you and your family to choose from.

You do not have to choose to use Home Health, nor do you have to choose one of our preferred partner HHAs. If you do not want to use one of the preferred partner HHAs, we will work with you to set up an alternative plan of care.

Disclosure: Please note that this provider is affiliated with, and/or owned or controlled by, PeaceHealth or an affiliate thereof, or may participate in PeaceHealth's established provider organization relating to a bundled payment program.