



NOTICE OF OBSERVATION BED SERVICES

You are being admitted as an outpatient (observation) patient. Depending on your insurance plan, you may be responsible for co-pays or deductibles associated with outpatient treatment.

Please note that within the first 24 hours of your stay, your physician will usually be able to make a decision to admit you as an inpatient to the hospital or discharge you as an observation patient.

MEDICARE PATIENTS:

Observation services must be reasonable and necessary to be covered by Medicare. In only rare and exceptional cases do reasonable and necessary outpatient observation services span more than 48 hours. Observation services are not to be used for the convenience of the patient, patient's family, or the physician.

FOR MEDICARE PATIENTS PLEASE NOTE:

Observation Bed Services are only covered under Part B of the Medicare Program. Observation Bed Services do not qualify for the three-day qualifying stay needed to receive skilled care benefits in a nursing facility or swing bed.

When observation services exceed 48 hours, you may be given an "Advance Beneficiary Notice" if your services are not considered medically necessary under the Medicare program. **If Medicare denies payment, you will be fully responsible for the payment.**

Sometimes people with Medicare need "self-administered drugs" while in hospital outpatient settings. **"Self-administered drugs" are drugs you would normally take on your own. Part B generally doesn't pay for self-administered drugs. If you get self-administered drugs that aren't covered by Medicare Part B while in a hospital outpatient setting, the hospital may bill you for the drug.** However, if you are enrolled in a Medicare drug plan (Part D), these drugs may be covered. In order for you to receive reimbursement, you will need to request an itemized statement from our billing department and submit this to your Part D carrier .

You, as a Medicare beneficiary, have the right to challenge Medicare payment decisions. If you have any questions, please contact your physician, our social services department or a member of the nursing staff. Thank you.