



Hospice Fraud Alert

2019

CALIFORNIA SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL WARNING!

Beware of Fraudulent Hospice Enrollments

Individuals promoting hospice enrollment for Medicare beneficiaries who are not terminally ill through cold calls, meetings and educational sessions could be using the hospice benefit to commit Medicare fraud and abuse.

855-613-7080

For additional information
on healthcare fraud, visit
cahealthadvocates.org



Find additional details on this fraud alert on the reverse side.

CALIFORNIA SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL WARNING!

Hospice Enrollment Scam

Beware of Fraudulent Hospice Enrollments

Several hospice agencies are giving presentations and visiting seniors at their home, and enrolling them into hospice even though they do not have a terminal illness with 6 months or less to live. The hospice company misleads people into enrolling in hospice by offering beneficiaries housekeeping, home health, nurse visits and/or medications for “free”. The hospice company is claiming they are a different branch of hospice and that services are covered by Medicare through “Obama Care”.

Remember:

- » **Medicare hospice care is for beneficiaries who are certified by a doctor** to have a terminal illness with 6 months or less to live.
- » **Beware of people who say they know how to get Medicare to pay for something.**
- » **Medicare only covers tests and procedures that are medically necessary** and prescribed by your doctor.
- » **Look for charges on your Medicare Summary Notice and Explanation of Benefits** for unnecessary tests or services that you did not want or were not ordered by your doctors.

Medicare pays for services and items based on medical necessity — meaning a service or item you really need for your medical condition. Also, most durable medical equipment requires a prescription from your doctor.



If you do come across such a scam, please report it to our **Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)** at **855-613-7080**