

# ACOs let you get care at a partnering skilled nursing facility without a prior hospital stay

Because \_\_\_\_\_ participates in Beth Israel Deaconess Care Organization (BIDCO), an Accountable Care Organization (ACO), unlike most people with Medicare, you may be able to get skilled nursing and/or rehabilitative care in a partnering skilled nursing facility without having to stay first at a hospital for 3 days in a row.

## What's an ACO?

An ACO is a group of doctors, hospitals, and/or other health care providers that work together to improve the quality and experience of care you get.

## What's a skilled nursing facility?

- ▶ A **skilled nursing facility** gives skilled nursing care and/or rehabilitation services on a daily basis. Skilled nursing care can only be given or supervised by certain providers. It includes services like:

- Medical social services
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Skilled nursing care
- Speech-language pathology



Medicare patients have to stay in a hospital 3 days in a row before Medicare will pay for their stay at a skilled nursing facility.



When an ACO partners with a skilled nursing facility, you may be able to get skilled nursing care without staying at a hospital first.

- ▶ Your doctor may decide that you need daily skilled care to help improve or maintain your current condition.



## What is the skilled nursing facility 3-day rule waiver?

- ▶ Most Medicare patients must stay in a hospital at least for 3 days in a row before Medicare will pay for their stay at a skilled nursing facility. This is called the **skilled nursing facility 3-day rule**. Some ACOs, including BIDCO, are freed from this rule because they have partnered with skilled nursing facilities and have what's called a **skilled nursing facility 3-day rule waiver** for those partner facilities.



## What does the skilled nursing facility 3-day rule waiver mean for me?

- ▶ Our ACO can send you for skilled nursing facility or rehabilitation care at a partner facility even if you haven't stayed in a hospital for 3 days first, which lets your doctor be more flexible with the care they recommend for you.
- ▶ For you to qualify for this benefit, we'd have to decide that you need skilled nursing facility care and meet certain other eligibility requirements. The skilled nursing facility 3-day rule waiver applies **only** to eligible patients who get care from one of our skilled nursing facility partners. All of our partners have at least a 3-star rating according to the [Nursing Home Compare website](#).

Nursing Home Compare keeps track of:

- The number of beds at the facility, and how many are being used (occupied)
- Nursing staff hours per resident per day
- Facility inspection summary results
- Deficiency and complaint information
- Quality measures for each nursing home



## Will my Medicare benefits change?

- ▶ **No.** Your Medicare benefits are not changing. You still have the right to visit any doctor, hospital, or other provider that accepts Medicare at any time, just like you do now.
- ▶ If you choose a skilled nursing facility or other facility that your doctor doesn't partner with, normal Medicare coverage requirements apply. This means Medicare **will not** pay for your skilled nursing facility stay without a prior 3-day inpatient hospital stay.
- ▶ The skilled nursing facility 3-day rule waiver also doesn't change how much you would pay for skilled nursing and/or rehabilitation services.
- ▶ If you're admitted to a skilled nursing facility, ask your doctor if that skilled nursing facility has partnered with BIDCO. Check out a list of our skilled nursing facility partners below.

**Important!**



## Questions?

- ▶ A BIDCO Case Manager is available to talk with you about this benefit and how it could work for you if you need skilled nursing and/or rehabilitation care. I can also share information about our skilled nursing facility partners. If you'd like to know more, ask your primary care provider at your next visit. Or call the BIDCO Skilled Nursing Facility 3-day rule waiver Hotline at 617-754-1120. You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE and tell them you want to learn more about ACOs (TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048), or visit [Medicare.gov/acos.html](http://Medicare.gov/acos.html).

- ABERJONA NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER (Winchester)
- ALLIANCE HEALTH, INC (Braintree)
- BAY PATH REHABILITATION AND NURSING CENTER (Duxbury)
- CAMBRIDGE REHABILITATION AND NURSING (Cambridge)
- CARE ONE BROOKLINE (Brookline)
- CARE ONE NEWTON HEALTHCARE (Newton)
- CARE ONE WILMINGTON HEALTHCARE (Wilmington)
- CHELSEA JEWISH- KATZMAN CENTER FOR LIVING (Chelsea)
- COUNTRY CENTER (Newburyport)
- COURTYARD NURSING CENTER CARE (Medford)
- ELIZABETH SETON (Wellesley)
- GERMAN CENTER FOR EXTENDED CARE (Boston)
- HANCOCK PARK (Quincy)
- HATHORNE HILL (Danvers)
- HEBREW REHABILITATION CENTER (Roslindale)
- JOHN SCOTT HOUSE (Braintree)
- LAUREL RIDGE REHABILITATION AND SKILLED CARE (Jamaica Plain)
- LEDGEWOOD REHABILITATION AND SKILLED NURSING CENTER (Beverly)
- LEONARD FLORENCE (Chelsea)
- LIFE CARE CENTER OF PLYMOUTH (Plymouth)
- MARINA BAY NURSING AND SKILLED REHABILITATION (Quincy)
- NEVILLE CENTER AT FRESH POND (Cambridge)
- NEVINS NURSING AND REHAB (Methuen)
- NEWBRIDGE ON THE CHARLES, INC (Dedham)
- PRESCOTT NURSING HOME (North Andover)
- SEACOAST NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER (Gloucester)
- SHERRILL HOUSE (Jamaica Plain)
- St. JOSEPH REHABILITATION AND NURSING CARE (Dorchester)
- STONE REHAB AND SENIOR LIVING (Newton)
- THE MEADOWS AT EDGEWOOD (Andover)

THE SKILLED NURSING FACILITY AT NORTH HILL (Needham)  
WINCHESTER REHABILITATION AND NURSING CENTER (Winchester)  
WINGATE AT CHESTNUT HILL (Chestnut Hill)  
WINGATE AT SILVER LAKE (Kington)  
WOBURN NURSING CENTER (Woburn)