

12.6 Home Health Care

Southwest Medical Home Health (SMA Home Health) a full-service Medicare-certified home health agency licensed by the State of Nevada.

SMA Home Health offers comprehensive care in the least restrictive environment to promote independence and wellness. Together with a physician, our team members develop a plan of care that best suits the needs of each patient.

Who is Eligible for Home Health Services?

SMA Home Health maintains written guidelines and criteria for admission. They are as follows:

- The patient must be confined to his/her home.
- The patient must need Skilled Nursing care on an intermittent basis, Physical Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology Services, or has continued need for Occupational Therapy.
- The patient must be able to have his/her needs met by the agency's stated scope of service.
- The patient must be under the care of a primary care physician, licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the state of Nevada, who will order and approve the provision of services.
- The patient must be located within the geographic area served by SMA Home Health. Direct services are available in the metropolitan Las Vegas area. Those patients outside of the service area will be served through contractual arrangements. In some areas outside of the metropolitan Las Vegas area, services may be limited. Depending on the need of the patient and the availability of services, the patient may need to stay within the Las Vegas area until independent with care.
- The home environment must be safe and able to meet the patient's physical needs and ensure safety of all staff.
- Services and care must conform to current standards of practice for the respective discipline.
- The clinical condition of the patient must be within the feasibility of the agency's services, time, cost, personnel and skills.
- Acceptance for home care services is realistically based on the patient's willingness and ability to function in a non-institutional environment. The primary focus of home care is to teach the patient and/or care giver self-care in the home environment
- Eligibility for participation is not based on the patient's race, creed, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, handicap or veteran status.
- Patients who cannot be cared for by the agency will be appropriately referred to other resources.
- If the patient does not meet admission criteria, the referring physician will be promptly notified.

What Services are available under Home Health?

- Skilled nursing services
- Wound care and enterostomal therapy
- Medication teaching and monitoring
- Infusion therapies (i.e. antibiotics, hydration, pain management, TPN, etc.)
- Enteral nutrition
- Chronic disease management

- Rehabilitation Services
 - Physical therapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech therapy
- Dietary evaluation and education
- Social work services
- Home health Aide

Who Provides the Home Care Services?

An interdisciplinary team of professional staff including registered nurses, therapists, medical social workers, dietitians and home health aides. Individualized care is available on an intermittent basis 7-days-a-week.

How Do I Initiate a Referral?

Call the Referral Department at **(702) 383-0887**, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. every day.

How Do I Receive Feedback?

Interaction with the physician will occur as frequently as necessary based on the complexity and urgency of the plan of care, but at least every 60 days. Telephone and written communication will take place as needed.

What Is the Criteria for Discharge from Home Health Services?

Patients are discharged from home health service upon achievement of goals as noted in the interdisciplinary plan of care, once they no longer meet the eligibility requirements or when services can no longer be provided safely and effectively in the patient's home or upon order by the attending physician. When the physician discharges a patient from home health service, all pertinent information regarding the condition of the patient will be documented in the patient's medical record. Services may be discontinued at any time, for any reason, by the patient or the patient's advocate.

Who Can I Call for Questions and Concerns about the Agency?

If you have questions or concerns regarding home health services, contact the SMA Home Health agency at **(702) 383-0887**.