



MEDICARE FACE TO FACE ENCOUNTER TIPSHEET

DESCRIBING HOMEBOUND – SOME MORE HINTS

Please record two or more reasons:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-op weakness • Severe dyspnea w/exertion • Severe dizziness • Muscle weakness • Uncontrolled pain • Disorientation/confusion • Severe depression • Severe anxiety (Agoraphobia, panic attack) • Psychiatric symptoms interfere with ability to safely leave home • Poor cognition • Compromised mental status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to ambulate • Bedbound • Confined to wheelchair and does not leave home • Unsteady gait/balance • Requires assist of 1-2 people • Requires assistive device(s) • Difficult and taxing effort to leave home • Unable to negotiate stairs • Poor coordination • Dependent with ADL's • Severely restricted ROM • Unsafe to leave home due to frequent falls • Poor visual acuity/blindness
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HINTS

Homebound does not mean never goes out. It means:

- Can only leave home with difficulty
- Leaves home only occasionally
- Does not leave home for fun (bingo, casino, senior center, etc.)
- Does not drive, or drives only for absolute necessity (such as getting to dialysis)
- Patients can go to church, medical appointments, adult day care, family visits and events and still be deemed "homebound" by Medicare

Revised: 7.15.13

DIAGNOSIS & REASONS FOR HOME CARE: MAKE THE LINK

PATIENT DX/PROBLEM	HOME CARE SERVICE
Wounds, lacerations, non-healing ulcers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wound care
Surgery (state type) with drains, other devices, diagnosis or surgery that requires home medical procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drain care or device care Perform procedure (specify) Teach patient or family to perform procedure
New diagnosis or change in condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient self care instruction Disease process instruction
Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pain management plan
Diet change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diet teaching Nutritional status assessment
Medication noncompliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess medication management Develop medication management system Medication teaching
Recent falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home Safety assessment Gait/balance assessment Exercise to regain mobility
Pernicious anemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer B12 injection
New treatment plan or medication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of response to Rx or treatment Patient teaching
Declining cognition and function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess mental status, ADLs, and IADLs Family teaching Home safety assessment Home modifications
Chronic disease with exacerbation (specify dx)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor vital signs, physical assessment, PO₂, weight
Joint replacement surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home safety assessment Exercise and adaptive equipment training Joint protection education Home modifications
Impaired gait, muscle weakness, poor coordination, balance problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess function and develop therapeutic exercise to regain function
Impaired speech, swallowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speech therapy to regain function

HINTS

Only nursing, physical therapy, occupational and speech therapy are considered “skilled” care under Medicare. A skill must be present for Medicare to pay for home care.

Social work, home health aide, but patients must have a “skilled need” (list above) to receive them.