Alliance for Home Health Quality and Innovation

HOME HEALTH: IOWA

Iowa's Home Health Patients & Workforce

Across Iowa, home health care providers are offering care to thousands of seniors, many of whom are living with chronic conditions. The state's home health sector also generates jobs, which help to support the state's overall economy.

The Medicare home health benefit covers skilled nursing care and therapy services provided to patients in their own residence. The patient must be under the care of a physician-approved place of care, meet the definition of "homebound," and be in need of skilled services on an intermittent basis. Patients often receive home health care following an acute care hospital discharge or because they require certain rehabilitation services. Services include care from highly skilled nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and medical social workers. Home health aides provide personal care services for patients if needed to support skilled nursing services.

As Iowa's senior population grows, home health is poised to provide these needed health care services to the state's seniors.

Economic Profile of Home Health[1]

7,588 Number of Home Health Employees

10,160 Number of Jobs Created by Home Health

$242M Home Health Total Wages

$327M Total Impact on State Labor Income

Chronic Conditions & Home Health Care[2]

66.9% Percentage of Home Health Users with 5+ Chronic Conditions

12.9% Percentage of Home Health Users with 4 Chronic Conditions

9.9% Percentage of Home Health Users with 3 Chronic Conditions

10.3% Percentage of Home Health Users with 0-2 Chronic Conditions

SPOTLIGHT: Home Health & Medicare

Iowa's Medicare Home Health Users are typically much sicker than the general Medicare population

	Medicare Beneficiaries in Iowa who use Home Health	All Medicare Beneficiaries in Iowa
Total Number	26,934 [1]	531,209 [3]
Percentage with 3+ Chronic Conditions	89.7%	32.2%

1. Avalere Health LLC; Home Health Chartbook Data. October 2015. (Citing and analyzing from Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages collected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013).
2. Avalere Health LLC; Prevalence of Chronic Conditions Among Home Health Users, By State. August 2014. (Citing and analyzing from Medicare Standard Analytics Files, 2012).
3. Kaiser Family Foundation Analysis of CMS State/County Penetration file. March 2013. http://kff.org/medicare/state-indicator/total-medicare-beneficiaries/#