

Self-Administered Medication in Observation Outpatient

Dear Medicare Patient,

Under Medicare Part A (inpatient), drugs are covered when provided during acute inpatient stays if Medicare requirements are met. Under Medicare Part B (Observation Hospital stays, Emergency room visits), drug coverage is limited to drugs that are not usually self-administered.

During the course of outpatient treatment, you may be given medication Medicare considers self-administered. **Medicare defines self-administered drugs as medications the patient can take him or herself.**

Medications can be brought from home and positively identified by the pharmacist these drugs may be used with a physician order. If Dodge County Hospital is able to use your home medications, you will not receive a bill for these medications. If you **do not** bring your home medications and we use medications from the pharmacy here at the hospital you will be billed for the self-administered drugs, even if you have a secondary insurance.

But in order to remain compliant with Medicare regulations related to the billing of these drugs, the hospital is required to submit these self-administered drugs as non-covered items on our billing to Medicare. You will receive a bill from the hospital following payment of our claim by Medicare. In addition to any deductible and co-insurance due, this bill will reflect the charges for unpaid self – administered drugs.

If you have a Medicare prescription drug plan (Part D), your plan may help you pay for these drugs in certain circumstances. You'll likely need to pay out-of-pocket for these drugs and submit a claim to your drug plan for a refund. Contact your drug plan for more information.

If you have questions, you may call 478-448-4063. If you would like additional information about your coverage by Medicare, you can call 1-800-633-4227 or visit www.medicare.gov to get help with your Medicare questions.