

General Inpatient Quick Facts



WHAT IS HOSPICE GENERAL INPATIENT LEVEL OF CARE?

General Inpatient (GIP) is a level of service under the Medicare Hospice Benefit and is designed to provide a short-term, intensive plan of care for pain and symptom management that cannot feasibly be provided in a residential setting.

WHERE IS GIP CARE PROVIDED?

GIP care can be provided in a contracted Medicare participating hospital, SNFs, or a freestanding hospice inpatient center such as the *Arthur B. and Ethel V. Horton VNA Hospice Center*.

WHO IS APPROPRIATE FOR GIP?

A patient who meets the standard eligibility criteria for the Medicare Hospice Benefit and has uncontrolled symptoms that require frequent medical adjustments, skilled nursing observation, or other stabilizing treatments.

WHEN MAY GIP BE REQUIRED?

GIP may be indicated when there is:

- + Sudden deterioration requiring intensive nursing intervention
- + Unmanageable respiratory distress
- + Transfusions for relief of symptoms
- + Advance open wounds requiring frequent or complex dressing changes that cannot be in patient's home
- + Severe agitated delirium with behavior issues
- + Pain or symptom crisis not managed by changes in treatment in the current setting or that requires frequent medication adjustments and monitoring
- + Intractable nausea/vomiting
- + Hemorrhage
- + Uncontrolled seizures
- + Imminent death — ONLY if skilled nursing needs are present

WHEN IS GIP NOT APPROPRIATE?

- + It is NOT intended for caregiver respite. If a caregiver is not in the home, or able to help the patient adequately, other arrangements can or should be made.
- + It is NOT intended to address unsafe living conditions in the patient's home.
- + It is NOT an "automatic" level of care when a patient is imminently dying. There must be pain or symptom management and skilled nursing needs present (intensity of care).

If you are unsure of if your patient is GIP or hospice appropriate, please call VNA Hospice NWI at **(219) 462-5195** and we will have a team member provide an evaluation or answer any questions that you may have.



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