



Home Healthcare for Veterans Living with ALS



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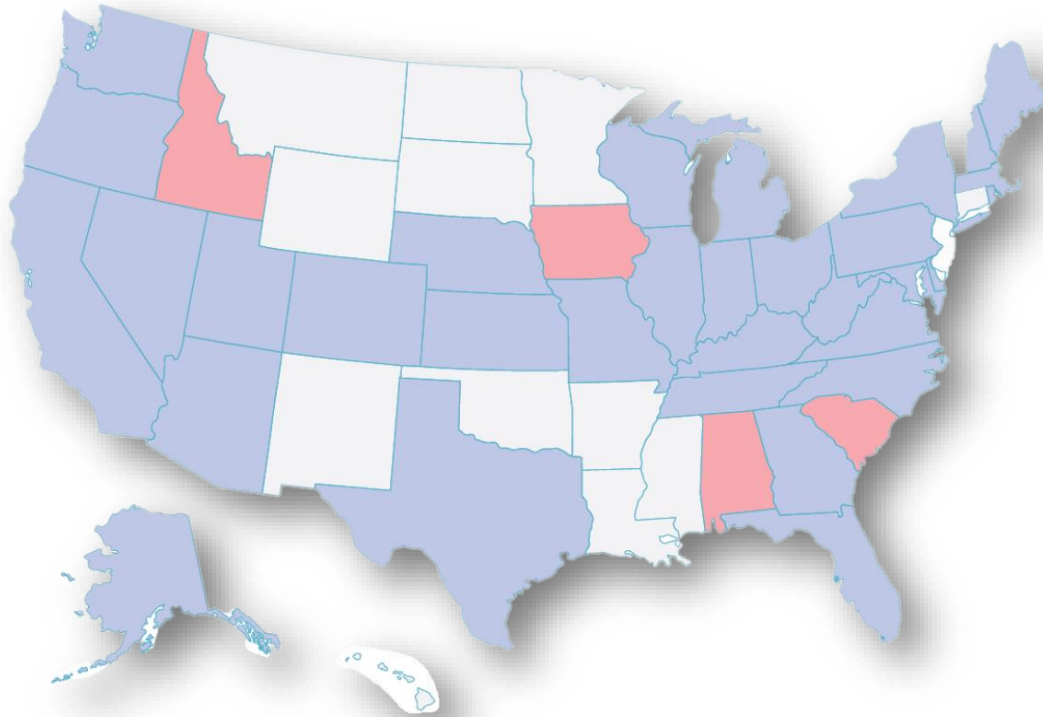
Who We Are

Maxim Healthcare Services is an established leader in home healthcare, behavioral care and personal caregiving across the United States. As a recognized provider of a comprehensive suite of services, we have been making a difference in the lives of our employees, caregivers, and patients for over 30 years.

Our home healthcare locations and divisions deliver a comprehensive level of care in the comfort of patients' homes. We provide home healthcare services for adult, senior, and pediatric patients with a variety of conditions and needs.



Maxim's Footprint



With more than 150 offices across the United States, you can rely on Maxim to ensure a smooth transition of care

- States with brick-and-mortar Maxim location(s)
- Maxim is licensed without a brick-and-mortar location

Veteran Care



2022 Snapshot

1,264 VA-funded patients received care

651,165 hours of care provided to VA-funded patients

122 VA-funded patients cared for had a primary diagnosis of ALS

244 VA-funded patients received expanded/private duty nursing level of care



Home Healthcare Nursing Services

We deliver services that enable chronically ill, disabled, and recuperating patients to receive the care they need in the comfort and privacy of their home.

All of our services are provided with one goal in mind: ***to promote the highest degree of recovery, comfort, and independence.***

Our services include

- Ventilator and tracheostomy care
- Feeding tube care and management
- Seizure management
- Oxygen management
- Medication management
- Personal care
- Homemaker services
- TPN infusion
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy

Home Healthcare for Veterans

We pride ourselves in providing quality long-term home healthcare to our nation's heroes through a wide range of services - specializing in caring for individuals affected by ALS, spinal cord injuries and traumatic brain injuries. As our patients' needs change, so do our services - ranging from homemaker services to comprehensive hourly nursing.

Our home healthcare services allow veterans the choice to receive care in the comfort and privacy of their homes as opposed to in a care facility. Our team of highly trained clinicians and caregivers use their experience to implement full-spectrum care coordination plans.

The VA refers to private duty nursing as expanded care!



Skilled Home Health Care – Expanded Overview

- Expanded Care, also called private duty nursing, may be utilized by VA Medical Centers when veteran care needs exceed skilled home health care bundled SEOC levels. This benefit is used to maintain veterans with complex conditions in their home.
- You can read more about Expanded Care on Optum's CCN website at the following link:
 - <https://www.vacommunitycare.com/doc/ccnBenefits/ccnSkilledHomeHealth>
- You can also visit TriWest's CCN website to read about Expanded Care:
 - <https://www.triwest.com/globalassets/ccn/provider/education/ccn-home-health-quick-reference-guide.pdf>



SEOC title	Provider type = Bill type	Scenarios	Notes
Skilled Home Health Care Bundled*	CHHA = UB-04/1450	<p>INTENT: To authorize skilled nursing care on an intermittent basis. Includes all disciplines, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, social worker and limited bath aide.</p> <p>Veteran was just released from inpatient care, following an admission for total knee replacement and needs home health services.</p> <p>The VA provider has entered a consult for skilled nursing for incisional wound care, education on new medications, physical and occupational therapy for home safety evaluations and strengthening, as well as a bath aide.</p>	<p>Skilled home health care is short-term (intermittent) in nature and includes multiple disciplines.</p> <p>Services are bundled based on CMS reimbursement methodology (OASIS/HIPPS).</p> <p>Veteran does not need to meet Medicare home-bound criteria and face-to-face requirements.</p> <p>*Services may only be provided by a Medicare-certified home health agency (CHHA).</p>
Skilled Home Health Care – Expanded*	<p>CHHA = HCFA-1500 and/or UB04/1450</p> <p>LHCSA = HCFA-1500</p>	<p>INTENT: To authorize expanded skilled services when needed for skilled care multiple hours per day or week to keep Veteran in home. Care does not meet Medicare criteria.</p> <p>Veteran has a diagnosis of ALS and is ventilator dependent. He is cared for by his wife at home who is experiencing significant caregiver burden. In addition, Veteran requires a two-person transfer, often needs suctioning and has tube feeds with frequent medications.</p> <p>The VA provider has entered a consult for skilled nursing services to provide support and assistance to maintain Veteran at home, as well as to enable wife to leave the house for a period of time.</p>	<p>Also called "Private Duty Nursing."</p> <p>Veteran's care needs exceed Skilled Home Health Care Bundled SEOC levels.</p> <p>Used to maintain Veterans with complex medical conditions in their home.</p> <p>Reimbursement is on a fee-for-service basis.</p> <p>*Services may be provided by either Medicare-certified home health agencies (CHHAs) or licensed agencies (LHCSAs).</p>



Private Duty Nursing Coverage

HOME HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Below is an overview of the in-home services coverage provided by various insurers compared to what your veterans may be entitled to through their service connection with the VHA.

In-Home Services	Veterans Health Administration	Medicaid	Medicare	Commercial Insurance
Homemaker Home Health Aide	3 - 168 hours/week	Optional Benefit – Varies by State	Not covered when this is the only care you need	Varies by Insurer but not typically a covered benefit
Expanded Care/Private Duty Nursing	Covered Benefit	Optional Benefit – Varies by State	Not A Covered Benefit	Varies by Insurer and sometimes covered with benefit limits and varying qualifications for coverage
Skilled Home Health Care	Covered Benefit	Mandatory Benefit	Covered Benefit	Varies by Insurer and typically covered with benefit limits
Skilled Home Health Care Therapies	Covered Benefit	Optional Benefit – Varies by State	Covered Benefit	Varies by Insurer and typically covered with benefit limits

Learn more by following this [link](#) to the ALS Association's website



Veteran Patient Examples

How we help

Maxim provides a full scope of nursing, caregiving and CNA-level care for veterans. Our services include assistance with medically necessary one-on-one services such as pain management, feeding tube care and ventilator management, among other treatments. We can provide this care at home and in acute care facilities through the Veterans Affairs (VA) benefit programs for those who qualify. Here are several real-life examples of these benefits being used across the country:

Veteran A	Veteran B	Veteran C	Veteran D
Primary diagnosis: ALS, G-tube and Cough Assist Machine dependent	Primary diagnosis: Throat/tongue cancer, trach	Primary diagnosis: Quadriplegic, C1-C4 incomplete (Motor Vehicle Accident, non-service connected)	Primary diagnosis: Multiple sclerosis
Veteran location: West	Veteran location: East	Veteran location: Midwest	Veteran location: Southeast
Hours and level of care: 8 hours per day x 5 days per week of Private Duty Nursing approved through the Expanded SEOC	Hours and level of care: 10 hours per day x 7 days per week of Private Duty Nursing approved through the Expanded SEOC	Hours and level of care: 28 hours of Private Duty Nursing through Expanded SEOC and 28 hours of homemaker services through Homemaker & Home Health Aide SEOC	Hours and level of care: 12 hours weekly, 2 hours per visit for up to 6 visits per week approved through the Bowel & Bladder SEOC



Evolution of VA funded Veterans

- Before CCN was established in 2019 access to expanded care was very much VAMC specific
- 2019 CCN established the expanded care SEOC and access has been easier ever since
- Access continues to grow – see FOIA data below
 - 51% of VAMCs used expanded care in December 2022 compared to 31% in January 2022
 - 116 expanded referrals/month in Q1/Q2 and 171 month in Q4
- Barriers to access:
 - Not every VAMC has yet to adopt this level of care
 - 65% Rule
 - [VA Fee Schedule](#)

**Veterans access to care is still dependent on
where they live not on their needs**



Recommendations for the Committee

- Have legislators track the utilization of expanded care per VAMC
- Changing the 65% rule to 100% or more of facility cost – Elizabeth Dole Act is already in the works
- Ensure the VA continues making progress to balance the amount spent on home and community based care



Questions & Comments

