

Term	Definitions	From
<p>Accountable Care Organization (ACO)</p>	<p>Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) are groups of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers, who come together voluntarily to give coordinated high quality care to their Medicare patients. The goal of coordinated care is to ensure that patients, especially the chronically ill, get the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors. When an ACO succeeds both in delivering high-quality care and spending health care dollars more wisely, it will share in the savings it achieves for the Medicare program.</p>	<p>https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ACO/</p>
<p>Acute Care Services</p>	<p>Is a branch of secondary health care where a patient receives active but short-term treatment for a severe injury or episode of illness, an urgent medical condition, or during recovery from surgery. In medical terms, care for acute health conditions is the opposite from chronic care, or longer term care. Acute care services are generally delivered by teams of health care professionals from a range of medical and surgical specialties. Acute care may require a stay in a hospital emergency department, ambulatory surgery center, urgent care center or other short-term stay facility, along with the assistance of diagnostic services, surgery, or follow-up outpatient care in the community. Hospital-based acute inpatient care typically has the goal of discharging patients as soon as they are deemed healthy and stable. Acute care settings include but are not limited to: emergency department, intensive care, coronary care, cardiology, neonatal intensive care, and many general areas where the patient could become acutely unwell and require stabilization and transfer to another higher dependency unit for further treatment.</p>	<p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acute_care</p>

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Aging In Place	<p>Aging in place is a term used to describe a person living in the residence of their choice, for as long as they are able, as they age. This includes being able to have any services (or other support) they might need over time as their needs change. The act of aging in place takes place during a period of time in an elderly person's life where they can have the things that they need in their daily life, while maintaining their quality of life. The reason this distinction is important is because many people think aging in place will fix the problems they have in their lives. The only problems that can be fixed while aging in place are the ones that a person has planned for (i.e. finances, health, personal or health care, etc.)</p>	<p>http://ageinplace.com/aging-in-place-basics/what-is-aging-in-place/</p>
Ambulatory Care or Outpatient	<p>Ambulatory care is medical care that does not require an overnight stay in a hospital. Ambulatory care is typically provided outside of a hospital setting, such as a medical office, ambulance, clinic, etc. Outpatient care describes medical care or treatment that does not require an overnight stay in a hospital or medical facility. Outpatient care may be administered in a medical office or a hospital, but most commonly, it is provided in a medical office or outpatient surgery center.</p>	<p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambulatory_care</p>

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<p>Assisted Living Facilities (ALF)</p>	<p>An assisted living residence or assisted living facility (ALF) is a housing facility for people with disabilities. These facilities provide supervision or assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs); coordination of services by outside health care providers; and monitoring of resident activities to help to ensure their health, safety, and well-being. Assistance may include the administration or supervision of medication, or personal care services provided by a trained staff person. Assisted living as it exists today emerged in the 1990s as an eldercare alternative on the continuum of care for people, for whom independent living is not appropriate but who do not need the 24-hour medical care provided by a nursing home and are too young to live in a retirement home. Assisted living is a philosophy of care and services promoting independence and dignity.</p>	<p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assisted_living</p>
<p>Community Mental Health Services</p>	<p>Support or treat people with mental disorders (mental illness or mental health difficulties) in a domiciliary setting, instead of a psychiatric hospital (asylum). The array of community mental health services vary depending on the country in which the services are provided. It refers to a system of care in which the patient's community, not a specific facility such as a hospital, is the primary provider of care for people with a mental illness. The goal of community mental health services often includes much more than simply providing outpatient psychiatric treatment. Community services include supported housing with full or partial supervision (including halfway houses), psychiatric wards of general hospitals (including partial hospitalization), local primary care medical services, day centers or clubhouses, community mental health centers, and self-help groups for mental health.</p>	<p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_mental_health_service</p>

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Community Services	<p>Are things such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geriatric assessment center • Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) • Adult day care • Transportation program • Healthy Aging programs • May include wellness facility discounts, social events, health screening, etc. • Case management (identified need during inpatient stay) 	<p>https://www.advisory.com/</p>
Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) or Senior Living Communities	<p>Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) is a particular type of retirement community that offers several levels of health care on one campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Living for residents who don't need personal assistance (in some states this is referred to as "Residential Living"). • Assisted Living for people who require a little help with the activities of daily living (in some states this is referred to as "Residential Living" or "Extended Living"). • Memory Care (this is sometimes referred to as "Special Care"). • Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation (both short- and long-term) in an on-campus Health Care Center. 	<p>http://www.retirement.org/continuing-care-retirement-communities/</p>
Continuum of Care	<p>Is a concept involving an integrated system of care that guides and tracks patient over time through a comprehensive array of health services spanning all levels of intensity of care.</p> <p>The Continuum of Care can include a wide set of services, and does not usually refer to a formal system of care delivery. The following are examples of the types and settings of healthcare services that are regularly connected through the Continuum of Care.</p>	<p>http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10293297</p>

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Custodial Care	Is care that is provided for long-term patients. This can be accommodated in a nursing home, convalescent home, skilled nursing facility (SNF), care home, rest home or intermediate care provides a type of residential care. It is a place of residence for people who require continual nursing care and have significant difficulty coping with the required activities of daily living. Nursing aides and skilled nurses are usually available 24 hours a day. <i>This is different than a short-term patient in a SNF where residents require therapies. (See below for more detail on SNF)</i>	https://www.advisory.com/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nursing_home_care
Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)	Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) include all organizations receiving grants under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (PHS). FQHCs qualify for enhanced reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other benefits. FQHCs must serve an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, provide comprehensive services, have an ongoing quality assurance program, and have a governing board of directors. Certain tribal organizations and FQHC Look-Alikes (an organization that meets PHS Section 330 eligibility requirements, but does not receive grant funding) also may receive special Medicare and Medicaid.	http://www.hrsa.gov/healthit/toolbox/RuralHealthIT/toolbox/Introduction/qualified.html
Government / Public health services, i.e. Medicaid	Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs for some people with limited income and resources. Medicaid also offers benefits not normally covered by Medicare, like nursing home care and personal care services.	https://www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs/help-paying-costs/medicaid/medicaid.html
Home Health Care	Offered are a comprehensive range of services, including nursing services, rehabilitative therapies, home infusion, advance wound care, telehealth and palliative care. The disciplines normally offered are Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Master Social Worker, Home Health Aid, and Dieticians.	https://www.advisory.com/

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Home-Based Settings & Community- Based Services	Home and community-based services (HCBS) provide opportunities for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive services in their own home or community. These programs serve a variety of targeted populations groups, such as people with mental illnesses, intellectual or developmental disabilities, and/or physical disabilities. RNs, social workers, patient family assistants and advocates, volunteers trained in Advanced Illness Management (AIM) all incorporates education and counseling to tailor program around patient needs, preferences, and coordinates care with patient's primary care physician.	https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/long-term-services-and-supports/home-and-community-based-services/home-and-community-based-services.html
Homeless patients (street or shelter)	An individual who lacks housing, including one whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private facility that provides temporary living accommodations; an individual who is a resident in transitional housing; or an individual who has as a primary residence a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.	http://www.bing.com/search?q=What+is+a+Homeless+Person&FORM=QSR E1
Hospices	Services may be offered in the patient's home, in a hospice "house" (freestanding hospice unit), or in post-acute facilities (ex. skilled nursing, assisted living, inpatient rehabilitation). Services include symptom and pain management, counseling for emotional, psychosocial, and spiritual needs, education around end-of-life issues.	https://www.advisory.com/
Hospital at Home	Patient receives extended nursing care at home through physician and nursing oversight.	https://www.advisory.com/

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Hospital Transition Program or Coach	The Care Transitions Program is designed to help elderly hospital patients (and their caregivers) to play a more active, effective role in their own health care. It is provided by a registered or advanced-practice nurse, who acts as a "transition coach." The transition coach first visits patients in the hospital to arrange a post-discharge home visit and to provide them with a personal health record. The record, which patients are instructed to share with future health care providers, includes a list of their health problems, medications, allergies, and warning signs/symptoms to closely monitor ("red flags").	http://evidencebasedprograms.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Care-Transitions-final-5.6.11.pdf
House Calls	Primary care services delivered to homebound patients.	https://www.advisory.com/
Independent Living Facilities	as seen by its advocates, is a philosophy, a way of looking at society and disability, and a worldwide movement of people with disabilities working for equal opportunities, self-determination, and self-respect. In the context of eldercare, independent living is seen as a step in the continuum of care, with assisted living being the next step.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent_living
Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities/Hospitals	IRFs are moderate acuity sites that provide a valuable combination of intensive rehab care and high-level clinical supervision. Patients treated in inpatient rehab facilities require at least five days of rehabilitation per week. Additionally, Medicare requires that at least 60% of an IRF's patients have at least one condition from a select set of clinical factors. Patients with lower-intensity therapy needs may be treated in outpatient rehabilitation facilities or at Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs). Common services include intensive physical therapy, intensive speech therapy, intensive occupational therapy, transitional rehabilitation services	https://www.advisory.com/

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Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals (LTACHs)	Long-term acute care hospitals (LTACHs) treat patients with serious medical conditions and require intensive post-acute treatment for an extended period of time. Because of the high level of care that they provide, LTACHs are the most expensive post-acute care setting. There are just over 400 LTACHs in the US.	https://www.advisory.com/
Managed Care Organizations (MCO)	The National Library of Medicine, defines managed care as programs or organizations "intended to reduce unnecessary health care costs through a variety of mechanisms, including: economic incentives for physicians and patients to select less costly forms of care; programs for reviewing the medical necessity of specific services; increased beneficiary cost sharing; controls on inpatient admissions and lengths of stay; the establishment of cost-sharing incentives for outpatient surgery; selective contracting with health care providers; and the intensive management of high-cost health care cases".	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_National_Library_of_Medicine
Medicare	Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older, certain younger people with disabilities, and people with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant, sometimes called ESRD). There are different parts to help cover specific services like Medicare Part A, (Hospital Insurance), Medicare Part B, (Medical Insurance), Medicare Part C, (Medicare Advantage Plans), and Medicare Part D, (Prescription drug coverage).	https://www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/decide-how-to-get-medicare/whats-medicare/what-is-medicare.html

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Memory Care	Memory care is the term for a long-term care option for patients who have been diagnosed with such conditions or have problems with at least two areas of daily living (ADLs). A memory care environment is designed for persons with a level of impairment making it unsafe for him or her to continue to stay at home, but who does not require the intensive care of a skilled nursing facility. Memory care allows a person experiencing memory loss to maintain a level of independence while relying on the safety and security of being in a residential facility with a professional staff.	http://www.parentgiving.com/elder-care/memory-care-facilities/
Palliative Care	Palliative care patients often suffer from illnesses such as congestive heart failure, progressive pulmonary disorders, or progressive neurological disorders such as multiple sclerosis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Services may be offered in the patient's home, in post-acute facilities, or in ambulatory clinics. Services include symptom and pain management, counseling for emotional, psychosocial, and spiritual needs, education around end-of-life issues.	https://www.advisory.com/
Patient Centered Medical Home	The medical home, also known as the patient-centered medical home (PCMH), is a team-based health care delivery model led by a health care provider that is intended to provide comprehensive and continuous medical care to patients with the goal of obtaining maximized health outcomes. The medical home encompasses 5 function and Attributes: Comprehensive Care, Patient-Centered, Coordinated Care, Accessible Services, and Quality & Safety.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medical_home https://pcmh.ahrq.gov/page/defining-pcmh
Physician Practices or Primary Care (PCP)	A primary care physician is a physician who provides both the first contact for a person with an undiagnosed health concern as well as continuing care of varied medical conditions, not limited by cause, organ system, or diagnosis.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primary_care_physician

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Population Health Management	Population health has been defined as "the health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group". It is an approach to health that aims to improve the health of an entire human population. This concept does not refer to animal or plant populations.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Population_health
Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)	Most Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) facilities provide short-term and long-term care to patients. Short-term rehabilitation care is typically reimbursed under Medicare in these SNF. Short term services include daily medical management, observation and assessment of patient's changing condition and rehabilitation needs, therapy, assistance with activities of daily living. Intended for patients that do not require the intensity of an acute facility but cannot live safely at home given their medical needs. There are also memory care units, see Memory Care.	https://www.advisory.com/
Telehealth	Access, equity, quality, and cost-effectiveness are key issues facing health care in both developed and less economically developed countries. Modern information and communication technologies (ICTs), such as computers, the Internet, and cell phones, are revolutionizing how individuals communicate with each other, seek and exchange information, and enriching their lives. These technologies have great potential to help address contemporary global health problems.	http://www.who.int/goe/publications/goe_telemedicine_2010.pdf

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Telemedicine	<p>Telemedicine, a term coined in the 1970s, which literally means “healing at a distance” (1), signifies the use of ICT to improve patient outcomes by increasing access to care and medical information. Recognizing that there is no one definitive definition of telemedicine – a 2007 study found 104 peer-reviewed definitions of the word (2) – the World Health Organization has adopted the following broad description: “The delivery of health care services, where distance is a critical factor, by all health care professionals using information and communication technologies for the exchange of valid information for diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease and injuries, research and evaluation, and for the continuing education of health care providers, all in the interests of advancing the health of individuals and their communities”</p>	<p>http://www.who.int/goe/publications/goe_telemedicine_2010.pdf</p>
Urgent Care	<p>Urgent Care Medicine (UCM) is the provision of immediate medical service offering outpatient care for the treatment of acute and chronic illness and injury. It requires a broad and comprehensive fund of knowledge to provide such care. Excellence in care for patients with complex and or unusual conditions is founded on the close communication and collaboration between the urgent care medicine physician, the specialists and the primary physicians. Urgent care does not replace your primary care physician. An urgent care center is a convenient option when someone's regular physician is on vacation or unable to offer a timely appointment. Or, when illness strikes outside of regular office hours, urgent care offers an alternative to waiting for hours in a hospital Emergency Room.</p>	<p>http://aaucm.org/about/urgentcare/default.aspx</p>