



## Quick Facts for Patients & Providers

Capital Caring's – **Care Choices** Program is an initiative of the **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services** to explore ways to improve care and care coordination options for hospice-eligible beneficiaries by allowing **greater flexibility and choice when deciding between hospice care and curative treatments**, when faced with a life-limiting illness.

Capital Caring's – Care Choices Program project is a natural fit with Capital Caring's mission and objectives to provide care coordination earlier, as well as easier access to hospice care.

### **Eligibility**

Capital Caring's – Care Choices Program provides a new option for beneficiaries with advanced cancers, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), congestive heart failure, and HIV/AIDS who meet hospice eligibility requirements under the Medicare hospice benefit to **receive hospice like services from Capital Caring *while concurrently receiving curative care from their healthcare providers.***

- Enrolled in Medicare fee-for-service Part A and Part B as primary insurance for the past 12 months
- Has a diagnosis for advanced cancer, COPD, HIV/AIDS, or CHF
- Certification by the community provider of six months to live if the end-stage condition runs its usual course
- Had at least one hospital encounter in the last 12 months for ER/ED visit, observation stay or admission
- Had at least three office visits for any reason with any Medicare participating provider within the last 12 months
- Has not elected the Medicare Hospice or Medicaid Hospice within the last 30 days
- Live in a traditional home now and continuously for the last 30 days
- Patient's address is within the service area of the participating hospice

### **Services Provided**

Hospice-like services provided under the auspices of the Capital Caring's Care Choices program will include the following:

- Care Coordination for a safe, effective, and appropriate organization and management of patient care activities, including the sharing of information with individuals involved in patient care
- Shared decision-making describes an interactive and meaningful approach to patient care that is tailored to the individual's values and preferences
- Nursing-in-home services, telephonic support and coordination of services



- Social work-assist with identifying additional community supports and assist with identifying patient and family needs for social and emotional support services
- Hospice aide and homemaker-personal care and assists in maintaining a safe and sanitary environment in areas of the home used by the patient
- Counseling and Chaplain-bereavement, spiritual and nutrition services
- Symptom and pain management-in collaboration with the patient's provider, ensures patient's needs and preferences are addressed
- In-home respite care-allows family short-term relief from caregiving responsibilities
- Volunteers (direct services)-provides direct services and social support for the patient and family

### **How to Access Care**

**Send referrals with the Physician Referral Form & Eligibility Checklist ([www.capitalcaring.org/CareChoices](http://www.capitalcaring.org/CareChoices)) and Capital Caring will figure out the rest**

**Phone: 1-800-869-2136**

**Fax: 1-877-631-2952**