



November 2024

Dear Valued Hospice Provider:

### IMPORTANT PROVIDER NOTIFICATION

After careful consideration, CMS has decided to terminate the VBID Model Hospice Benefit Component as of 11:59 PM, December 31, 2024.

Accordingly, effective January 1, 2025, AvMed will no longer participate in the CMS VBID Hospice Benefit Component for our Medicare Members who elected hospice enrollment on or after 1/1/2024 in the following plans offered in Dade and Broward Counties:

- Medicare Choice
- Medicare Circle
- Medicare Access

#### What this Means for You:

- **Hospice Services rendered in Calendar Year 2025:** AvMed will no longer be financially responsible for hospice care that occurs after December 31, 2024, for all hospice elections previously covered by AvMed. **All claims for hospice care furnished on and after January 1, 2025, to any AvMed Medicare Member, including hospice enrollees in one of AvMed's calendar year 2024 VBID Hospice Benefit Component participating plans, should be submitted directly to the Medicare Fee For Service (FFS) program.**
- **Hospice Services rendered in Calendar Year 2024:** AvMed will continue to be financially responsible for hospice care rendered from January 1 -December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to an AvMed Medicare Member who elected hospice during calendar year 2024 and was enrolled in one of AvMed's VBID Hospice Benefit Component participating plans. Hospice providers should continue to submit hospice claims for these Medicare Members to AvMed after the conclusion of the Hospice Model Component for services furnished before January 1, 2025. **Claims for calendar year 2024 hospice services rendered to a Medicare Member in an AvMed VBID participating plan should be submitted to:**
  - AvMed Health Plans – Claims Department – P.O. Box 569000 – Miami, FL 33256
- **Where do I submit claims for Hospice Enrollees whose Hospice services span both calendar years 2024 and 2025?**

For AvMed Medicare Members in one of our VBID Hospice Benefit Component participating plans who elected hospice during calendar year 2024:

  - **2025 Calendar Year Services:** Submit claims directly to the Medicare Fee For Service (FFS) program.
  - **2024 Calendar Year Services:** Submit claims to AvMed at:
    - AvMed Health Plans – Claims Department – P.O. Box 569000 – Miami, FL 33256

*Note: Members enrolled in AvMed's Medicare One or Medicare National Choice plan are excluded from the VBID Model Hospice Benefit Component. All hospice care claims for Members in these plans should continue to be sent to Medicare FFS.*



- **VBID Hospice Component Transitional Benefits:** As part of AvMed’s 2024 participation in CMS’ VBID Hospice Benefit Component, AvMed Medicare Members in a VBID participating plan who elected hospice in 2024 were allowed 30 days of radiation treatment for palliative purposes, dialysis, and hospital bed throughout the duration of their hospice care when they chose an AvMed In-Network Hospice Provider. **These additional transitional benefits through AvMed will end as of 11:59 PM, December 31, 2024. Claims for calendar year 2024 Transitional Benefit services should be submitted to:**
  - AvMed Health Plans – Claims Department – P.O. Box 569000 – Miami, FL 33256

**Where can I find more information on CMS’ termination of the VBID Model Hospice Benefit Component?**

- **CMS. Gov:** The Future of the Hospice Benefit Component of the Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID) Model | CMS , <https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/innovation-models/vbid/vbid-hospice-announcement>
- **Palmetto GBA:** Jurisdiction M HHH - Termination of the Hospice Benefit Component of the VBID Model on December 31, 2024, <https://www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/jmhjh.nsf/DIDC/GPS0B09KTR~Hospice>

**2025 Hospice Benefit For all AvMed Medicare Members:**

- CMS’ decision to sunset the VBID Hospice Benefit **Does NOT** impact the ability for our Medicare Members to be referred for hospice Care **OR** our Member’s ability to access or receive hospice care under their AvMed Medicare Benefits.
- AvMed Medicare Members can continue to select any in-network or out-of-network Medicare certified hospice Provider. Plus, hospice enrollment and hospice care services **do not require authorization.**
- Hospice Providers should continue to notify AvMed of all Members who enroll in hospice. If a call or referral is received by Member Engagement or Provider Service, the following information should be emailed to Enrollment and Premium Services (EPS), by either the hospice provider or the AvMed Associate to [EnrollmentMedicare@AvMed.org](mailto:EnrollmentMedicare@AvMed.org).
  - Member Name
  - AvMed Member #
  - Member DOB
  - Name of Hospice Provider
  - Date of Enrollment or Disenrollment

**Have Questions or Need Help?**

We’re here to help you with this transition. Should you have further questions or need help, please contact the AvMed Provider Service Center at 1-800- 452-8633, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am – 5 pm, excluding holidays. You may also visit our Hospice and VBID dedicated webpage at: <https://www.avmed.org/web/provider/provider-education/hospice-and-vbid-processes/>

Thank you for being a valued provider partner.

Ian Andes  
VP Provider Contracting and Service