

Medicare Part A

Item	Your Liability	Example
Part A Deductible	In 2019 Medicare expects you to pay the first \$1,364 of a hospital benefit period. A hospital benefit period is 60 days.	Susan is going into the hospital for open heart surgery. She spends a total of four days in the hospital. She will be responsible for \$1,364 in hospital charges.
Part A Coinsurance	If you spend more than 60 consecutive days in a hospital, Medicare expects you to pay \$341/day in 2019.	Right before Susan is released, she comes down with a rare virus and remains in the hospital for another 61 days. She will be responsible for \$1,705 (65 days - 60 days = 5 days x \$341/day) plus her Part A Deductible; a total of \$3,069.
Part A Coinsurance	If you spend more than 90 consecutive days in a hospital, Medicare expects you to pay \$682/day in 2019.	Susan is finally getting better when she comes down with pneumonia. Sadly this keeps her in the hospital another 32 days. She has now been in the hospital a total of 97 days. She will be responsible for \$4,774 (97 days - 90 days = 7 days x \$682/day) plus her Part A Deductible and her the first phase of Part A Coinsurance; a total of \$7,843.
Skilled Nursing Coinsurance	If there is an approved 3-day hospital stay prior to entering a skilled nursing facility, Medicare will cover the first 20 days of care. From days 21-100 you are required to pay a co-pay of \$170.50/day in 2019. After 100 days of care, Medicare no longer approves skilled nursing care.	Susan is now well enough to leave the hospital, but is now so weak that she is not strong enough to return home. She spends the next 5 weeks recovering in a skilled nursing facility. She will be responsible for \$2,557.50 (35 days - 20 days = 15 days x \$170.50/day).
Blood Benefit	In the event of a transfusion, Medicare expects you to pay for the first three pints of blood.	Susan is on her way home from the skilled nursing facility when her car is hit by a drunk driver. She is rushed to the hospital where she receives four pints of blood. She will be responsible for the cost of three pints of blood (approx. \$2,500 based on client experience).
Hospice	Medicare covers all hospice costs except two. The first is a small \$5 copay for some pain management and symptom control prescription drugs. The second is a 5% coinsurance to cover charges associated with inpatient respite care.	It soon becomes obvious that Susan will not recover from her injuries. The doctor has given her a terminal diagnosis and prescribed hospice care for her. She elects to receive this care at her house. She is taking two pain management prescription drugs for which she is responsible to pay a \$10 monthly copay (2 prescriptions x \$5 each). A month into her hospice care her daughter who attends to her, has to leave town for another family emergency. Susan is placed in a nursing facility for a short-term respite stay while her daughter is gone. Susan will be responsible for 5% of the room and board cost of the nursing facility.