

Does Hospice Save Money?



IN 2019, HOSPICE SAVED MEDICARE

\$3.5billion

NORC estimates that Medicare spending for those who Received hospice care was \$3.5 billion less in 2019 than it would have been had they not received hospice care.

In the last year of life, the total cost of care for Medicare beneficiaries who used hospice was 3.1% lower.

COST TO MEDICARE

3.1%

LESS FOR HOSPICE BENEFICIARIES

More is Better

Research by NORC at the University of Chicago, March 2023.

Medicare spending in the 12 months preceding death is lower for hospice beneficiaries with a LOS of 15 days or more compared to non-hospice, regardless of disease group.



≥ 6 months = 11%

For those who spent at least 6 months on hospice in the last year of their lives, spending was 11% lower than the adjusted spending of those who did not use hospice.

In other words

Earlier enrollment in hospice – and longer lengths of stay – reduce Medicare spending.

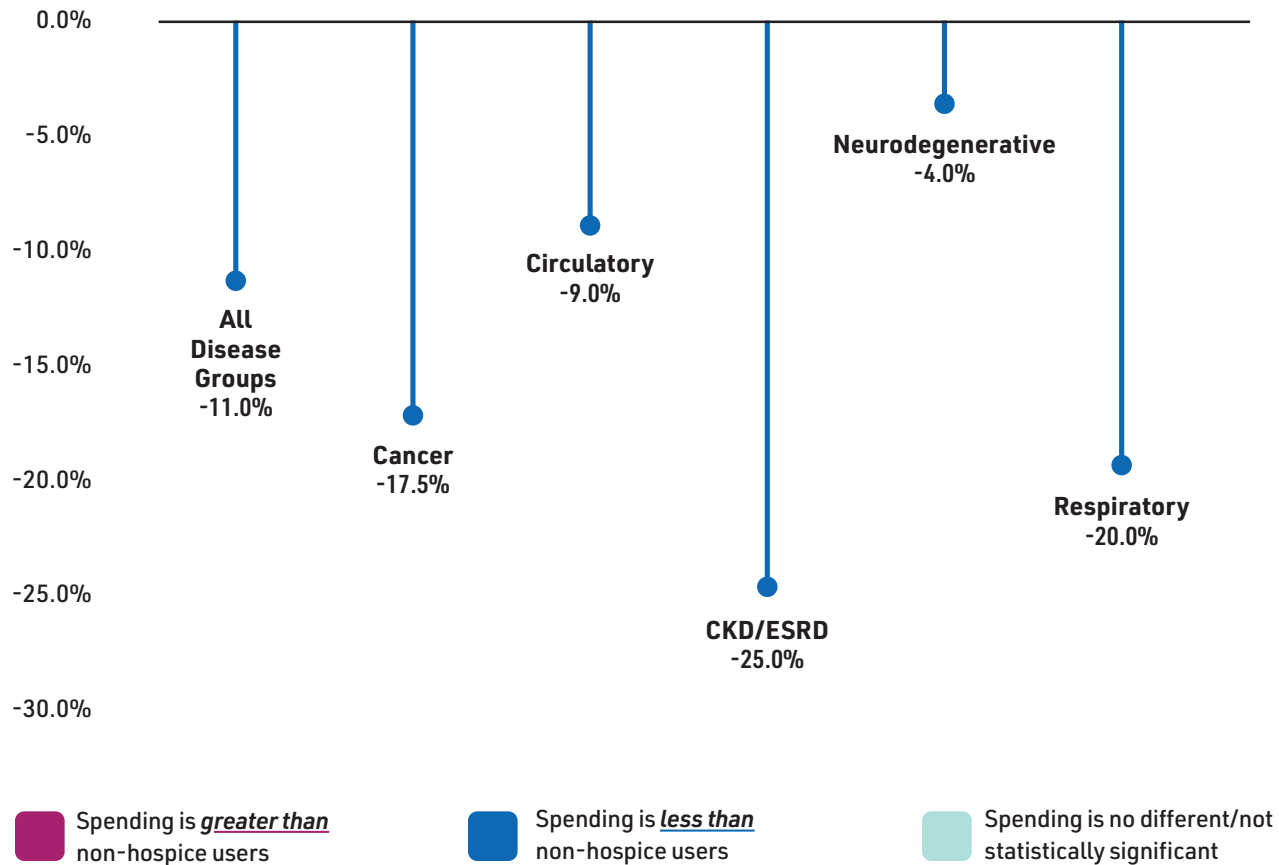
SPENDING WAS **25% LOWER**

For hospice patients with chronic Kidney disease/end stage renal disease (CKD/ESRD).

At any length of stay, Hospice care benefits patients, family members, and caregivers. From increased satisfaction and quality of life, to improved pain control, to reduced physical and emotional distress and reduced prolonged grief, hospice offers multiple benefits to patients, families, and caregivers.

Comparison of Total Costs of Care

Difference by Disease Group for Hospice Stays Greater than 180 Days



In summary, patients, family members, and caregivers experience the value of hospice through increased satisfaction and quality of life, improved pain control, reduced physical and emotional distress (patients), and reduced prolonged grief disorder and other emotional distress (family/caregivers).

REFERENCES

- 1 Kleinpell et al., "Exploring the Association of Hospice Care on Patient Experience and Outcomes of Care."
- 2 Harrison et al., "Hospice Improves Care Quality For Older Adults with Dementia in Their Last Month of Life."
- 3 Wright et al., "Place of Death: Correlations with Quality of Life of Patients...Mental Health."
- 4 Kumar et al., "Family Perspectives on Hospice Care Experiences of Patients with Cancer."