

# What are Hospice Respite Benefits?

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## **Hospice Respite Benefit**

Respite is one of the levels of care available to patients under their Medicare or Medicaid hospice benefit.

**When is respite used?** Respite care is designed to provide a break for caregiver(s) if needed.

**Where?** Respite can be provided in a hospice house or an approved nursing home where 24 hour nursing service is provided.

**How long is respite?** A patient can be placed in respite for up to 5 consecutive days.

**How often?** Five day respite stays can be used as often as patient/caregiver needs warrant, but cannot be used consecutively.

**How is it paid for?** A per diem is provided to the hosting facility through the hospice Medicare or Medicaid benefit.