

# Supporting the Hospital Inpatient Services Modernization Act

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Healthcare in America is in a crisis. Overcrowded hospitals, widespread staff shortages, and ballooning costs have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. We need innovative, new solutions to address these challenges. One of these is the Hospital At Home (HAH) program. At the height of the COVID pandemic, to address overcrowded hospitals, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented a waiver program to allow Medicare patients to receive hospital-level care from the comfort of their home.

Caring for patients in the hospital is difficult. Not only are the patients medically complex, but there is a disconnect between what happens in the hospital and what happens at home. As the physician, I only see these people during a small sliver of their life; it is they and their family that must continue the healing process at home. HAH programs allow the care team to obtain key insights into the lives of those we care for: how much support do they have at home? How far is the bedroom from the front door, or the kitchen, or the bathroom? How many steps are there? Are medications neatly arranged in a pill box, or are they kept mixed together in a bag? By caring for people in their own home, we get answers to questions we didn't even know we had; and these answers help us to promote healing and wellness.

Analysis of HAH programs show incredible results. Patients received safe, high-quality care at home — comparable to what they would have received in the hospital. Not only that, but patients treated in a HAH program were substantially less likely to need to be re-admitted to a hospital. These results are likely due in part to hospital-at-home care being more patient-centric: nearly 70% of patients gave their at-home care the highest satisfaction rating, compared to only 45% of hospitalized patients. Lastly, HAH programs were able to provide this patient-centric, high-quality care at significantly lower cost: 38% less than compared to the hospital.

I encourage you to take action to help overburdened hospitals and soaring healthcare costs by contacting your local representative and encourage them to cosponsor the Hospital Inpatient Services Modernization Act (HR 7053)

## **More information and ways to take action:**

- [Summary of the Advanced Care at Home evaluation](#)
- [Link to the HR 7053 bill](#)
- [Sign on to a letter in support of the Advanced Care at Home program](#)
- [Click here to find your legislators!](#)