



## Self-Administered Drugs During your Hospital Stay

Thank you for choosing Vail Health Hospital for your needs. As a Medicare patient we would like to let you know that Self-Administered Drugs may not be covered during your Outpatient/Observation stay.

### **Inpatient vs. Outpatient/Observation**

Medicare has specific guidelines that determine a patient's status which include the severity of illness and the intensity of services needed. Although you may be scheduled to stay overnight, you may not be considered as an Inpatient by Medicare.

### **What are self-administered drugs?**

Medicare considers certain prescription and over the counter medications that you would normally take on your own as "self-administered" and are not generally covered by Medicare during an outpatient, observation, or emergency department stay. These drugs are usually taken orally, but some injectable drugs are also considered self-administered, such as insulin. This includes medications your provider may prescribe during your stay.

Vail Health is not a Medicare Part D provider and is unable to submit claims for payment of self-administered drugs, however if you are enrolled in Part D coverage you may personally submit a claim in order to receive a refund from your drug plan.

For details on how Medicare covers hospital services please contact:

1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

This information can also be found in your Medicare and You Handbook

Vail Health Hospital has payment options available to assist you. Please contact us at 970-777-2850