

From: [Lisa Wilson](#)
To: [Care, Chronic \(Finance\)](#)
Subject: Hospice
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 12:18:45 AM

Please keep hospice out of Medicare Advantage. In rural areas, this could have disastrous consequences. The quality of care options will diminish. It's already difficult in these areas for quality hospice programs to be provided. Since the profit margins are small in hospice, large agencies are not interested in rural areas. They cannot run a high census and the cost to provide care is too high because of drive time and staff recruitment.

It would restrict a patients right to choose their hospice. Not all hospice providers are created equal. A patient should always have the right to choose their own hospice. My prediction if this happens: You will see increased hospital utilization due to revocation of hospice. Not only will this increase the costs, but most importantly, it will diminish a patients right to pass away at home while protecting their dignity, comfort & peace.

Respectfully,

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