

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN OF VIETNAM VETERANS

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 10
TITLE: SKILLED NURSING FACILITY CARE

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.900 and 17.901

I. DEFINITIONS

A skilled nursing facility (SNF) is a community nursing home, licensed by the State in which it is located, which provides care prescribed by, or performed under the general direction of a physician and provides nursing, rehabilitative, dietetic, pharmaceutical, laboratory, radiological, social, and spiritual services to the patient. The facility must comply with applicable State and local government regulations.

II. POLICY

A. A skilled nursing facility is covered when the patient's condition requires a level of medical care that cannot be provided in a home setting and does not meet the requirements for hospital admission.

B. The following services may be covered in a skilled nursing facility:

1. nursing care,
2. medications,
3. supplies,
4. DME not ordinarily provided,
5. rehabilitation services,
6. physical therapy,
7. speech therapy,
8. occupational therapy, and
9. osteopathic and chiropractic manipulative therapy.

III. EXCLUSIONS

A. Nursing home care that accommodates convalescents or other persons who are not in need of hospital care and who do not require skilled nursing care or rehabilitative services.

B. Custodial care in a nursing home is not covered unless for respite care (see [Chapter 2, Section 11](#), *Respite Care*).

C. Intermediate care facility (community nursing home) services unless for respite care (see [Chapter 2, Section 11](#), *Respite Care*).

END OF POLICY