

SCAM ALERT

Hospice Fraud



Cases of hospice fraud are on the rise in Ohio senior care facilities. Fraudsters con their way in to long-term care and independent living centers to gain access to residents.

As a service provider, you're in a unique position to help identify and prevent cases of this type of fraud.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- **Sudden or Unexpected Enrollment:** Take note when seniors are suddenly enrolled in hospice without a clear medical reason.
- **Pressure to Enroll:** Fraudsters use pressure tactics to get people to sign documents and mistakenly enroll.
- **Limited Medical Records:** Lack of medical documentation to support hospice enrollment may be indication of fraud.
- **Denied Services:** Claims for curative care treatments may be denied if a Medicare beneficiary has enrolled in hospice.
- **Financial Concerns:** Be aware of any financial concerns that seniors or their families have regarding hospice care. If they seem unsure or uncomfortable, it could be a sign of fraud.



WHAT TO DO

- **Confirm** that all "business related" visitors have permission to interact with your residents. Don't assume the proof provided by the visitor is legitimate.
- **Say Something.** If you notice outsiders encouraging residents to sign up for gifts or promotions, ask to see the fine print and ask residents to pause before signing.
- **Educate.** Inform seniors and their families about the signs of hospice fraud. Encourage them to ask questions and seek clarification if they have any concerns.
- **Report It.** Report suspected hospice fraud to the authorities, including your local police department, the Ohio Attorney General, or the Ohio Senior Medicare Patrol.



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