

HOME HEALTH SERVICES

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1. The need for home health agencies/services shall be determined on a county by county basis.
2. In a given county, 1.5 percent of the total population will be considered as the need estimate for home health services in that county.
The 1.5 percent formula will be applied as a general guideline, as a means of comparison within the proposed service area.
3. Using recognized population sources, projections for four years into the future will be used.
4. The use rate of existing home health agencies in the county will be determined by examining the latest utilization rate as calculated in the Joint Annual Report of existing home health agencies in the service area.

Based on the number of patients served by home health agencies in the service area, an estimation will be made as to how many patients could be served in the future.

5. Documentation from referral sources:
 - a. The applicant shall provide letters of intent from physicians and other referral sources pertaining to patient referral.
 - b. The applicant shall provide information indicating the types of cases physicians would refer to the proposed home health agency and the projected number of cases by service category to be provided in the initial year of operation.
 - c. The applicant shall provide letters from potential patients or providers in the proposed service area that state they have attempted to find appropriate home health services but have not been able to secure such services.
 - d. The applicant shall provide information concerning whether a proposed agency would provide services different from those services offered by existing agencies.
6. The proposed charges shall be reasonable in comparison with those of other similar facilities in the service area or in adjoining service areas.
 - a. The average cost per visit by service category shall be listed.
 - b. The average cost per patient based upon the projected number of visits per patient shall be listed.