

## Eli's Hospice Insider

### **Budget: President Trump Wants To Lower Hospice Rates Based On Site Of Service**

**Budget proposal also calls for intermediate sanctions for surveys.**

The idea of paying hospices less for patients they see in nursing homes seems to be gaining traction.

The **Trump** administration's recently released budget proposal for 2021 includes a plan to pay hospices less for routine home care provided in skilled nursing and nursing facilities. The change would cut \$4.5 billion from Medicare spending over 10 years, according to a **Department of Health and Human Services** budget summary.

The budget also includes proposals to implement intermediate sanctions for hospice surveys and post accreditation survey results and information for hospice.

Overall, the budget includes about \$750 billion in reduced Medicare spending over 10 years, and nearly \$850 million in reduced Medicaid spending during the same time period.

With Democrats controlling the House of Representatives, the budget document is just a "list of suggestions," as one Republican lawmaker noted. But lawmakers looking to fund their own budget priorities may turn to the list for ideas down the line.