

Notice regarding the “No Surprises Act” – January 1, 2022

You may have heard about the federal No Surprises Act which gives you to the right to receive a “Good Faith Estimate” explaining how much your medical care will cost. This applies to scenarios where surprise out-of-network bills arise for receiving emergency care or elective procedures, or being transported by an air ambulance, or non-network providers at in-network facilities. **This typically will not be relevant to outpatient, private-practice care providers, such as ACCS**, but is more relevant for group practice, hospital, clinic, or other institutional settings.

Under the law, effective January 1, 2022, clients/patients **who don’t have insurance or who are not using insurance** have the right to request and receive a Good Faith Estimate for the total expected cost of any non-emergency items or services. This includes related costs like medical tests, prescription drugs, equipment, and hospital fees.

If requested, this office will provide a Good Faith Estimate of expected charges that is available in a written document that is clear and understandable; is orally provided when the service is scheduled or when the client/patient asks about costs; and is available in accessible formats and languages if needed.

Make sure to save a copy or picture of your Good Faith Estimate. If you receive a bill that is at least \$400.00 more than your Good Faith Estimate, you can dispute the bill.

If you dispute the bill using the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process, each party pays a \$50.00 administrative fee, and the losing party must pay the arbitration fee (IDR fees can range from \$200.00 to \$500.00 or more for a single case).

For questions or more information about your right to a Good Faith Estimate or the dispute process, visit <https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers> or call 1-800-985-3059.

Disclaimers under the No Surprises Act

- There may be additional items or services recommended as part of the services/treatment that will be scheduled separately and are not reflected in the Good Faith Estimate;
- The information provided in the Good Faith Estimate is only an estimate – actual items, services, or charges may differ from the Good Faith Estimate; and
- The Good Faith Estimate does not require the client/patient to obtain any services from this provider.

Any Good Faith Estimate provided must be included in the client/patient’s medical record, including the date and method of delivery. It should be secured and retained in accordance with standards for other medical records. A copy must be made available upon request for at least six years after it was initially provided.

This notice is being provided to all clients (and/or their agents as applicable) via email. Printed copies will be available at onsite visits. A copy will be posted on the ACCS website at <https://agingcareconsult.com>.