To understand this better, see the chart below. Let's say a patient stays at the hospital for 4 days, and the care provided ends up costing \$10,000. Keep in mind that costs can vary greatly depending on the type of care provided during that time.

Example: Estimated Costs under Inpatient and Observation Status for a 4 day Hospital Stay

Term to Know- Deductible: What the patient must pay before Medicare pays.

Inpatient	Observation	
Medicare Part A	Medicare Part B	Medicare Part D
4 day stay: \$10,000	4 day stay: \$10,000	
Costs Hospital Deductible \$1260	Costs Part B Deductible: \$166	There is a chance that the hospital pharmacy is out of network and
After deductible the patient pays \$0 for first 60 days.	After the deductible, the patient pays 20% of services provided during hospital stay.	patients will be stuck with the full cost of medications.
Skilled Nursing Skilled Nursing is a covered benefit after discharge with 3 day stay	Skilled Nursing The patient is responsible to pay for all skilled nursing services.	
Medications are covered.	Medications may not be covered.	
Total cost to patient: \$1260 for Medicare covered services. Skilled nursing is covered after the	Total cost to patient: \$166 deductible + 20% of \$10,000= \$166+\$2000= \$2166 for hospital services only, plus extra costs for medications and skilled nursing.	
patient leaves the hospital since they stayed for 3 days as an inpatient.	The patient would not have any skilled nursing facility services covered after their stay. If the patient did go to a skilled nursing facility, they could owe \$205 per day or more.	