

of information requirements at § 420.206 of this chapter.

[48 FR 56026, Dec. 16, 1983, as amended at 55 FR 50834, Dec. 11, 1990]

**§ 418.52 Condition of participation—
Governing body.**

A hospice must have a governing body that assumes full legal responsibility for determining, implementing and monitoring policies governing the hospice's total operation. The governing body must designate an individual who is responsible for the day to day management of the hospice program. The governing body must also ensure that all services provided are consistent with accepted standards of practice.

**§ 418.54 Condition of participation—
Medical director.**

The medical director must be a hospice employee who is a doctor of medicine or osteopathy who assumes overall responsibility for the medical component of the hospice's patient care program.

**§ 418.56 Condition of participation—
Professional management.**

Subject to the conditions of participation pertaining to services in §§ 418.80 and 418.90, a hospice may arrange for another individual or entity to furnish services to the hospice's patients. If services are provided under arrangement, the hospice must meet the following standards:

(a) *Standard: Continuity of care.* The hospice program assures the continuity of patient/family care in home, outpatient, and inpatient settings.

(b) *Standard: Written agreement.* The hospice has a legally binding written agreement for the provision of arranged services. The agreement includes at least the following:

(1) Identification of the services to be provided.

(2) A stipulation that services may be provided only with the express authorization of the hospice.

(3) The manner in which the contracted services are coordinated, supervised, and evaluated by the hospice.

(4) The delineation of the role(s) of the hospice and the contractor in the admission process, patient/family as-

essment, and the interdisciplinary group care conferences.

(5) Requirements for documenting that services are furnished in accordance with the agreement.

(6) The qualifications of the personnel providing the services.

(c) *Standard: Professional management responsibility.* The hospice retains professional management responsibility for those services and ensures that they are furnished in a safe and effective manner by persons meeting the qualifications of this part, and in accordance with the patient's plan of care and the other requirements of this part.

(d) *Standard: Financial responsibility.* The hospice retains responsibility for payment for services.

(e) *Standard: Inpatient care.* The hospice ensures that inpatient care is furnished only in a facility which meets the requirements in § 418.98 and its arrangement for inpatient care is described in a legally binding written agreement that meets the requirements of paragraph (b) and that also specifies, at a minimum—

(1) That the hospice furnishes to the inpatient provider a copy of the patient's plan of care and specifies the inpatient services to be furnished;

(2) That the inpatient provider has established policies consistent with those of the hospice and agrees to abide by the patient care protocols established by the hospice for its patients;

(3) That the medical record includes a record of all inpatient services and events and that a copy of the discharge summary and, if requested, a copy of the medical record are provided to the hospice;

(4) The party responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the agreement; and

(5) That the hospice retains responsibility for appropriate hospice care training of the personnel who provide the care under the agreement.

[48 FR 56026, Dec. 16, 1983; 48 FR 57282, Dec. 29, 1983]

**§ 418.58 Condition of participation—
Plan of care.**

A written plan of care must be established and maintained for each individual admitted to a hospice program,

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and the care provided to an individual must be in accordance with the plan.

(a) *Standard: Establishment of plan.* The plan must be established by the attending physician, the medical director or physician designee and interdisciplinary group prior to providing care.

(b) *Standard: Review of plan.* The plan must be reviewed and updated, at intervals specified in the plan, by the attending physician, the medical director or physician designee and interdisciplinary group. These reviews must be documented.

(c) *Standard: Content of plan.* The plan must include an assessment of the individual's needs and identification of the services including the management of discomfort and symptom relief. It must state in detail the scope and frequency of services needed to meet the patient's and family's needs.

§ 418.60 Condition of participation—Continuation of care.

A hospice may not discontinue or diminish care provided to a Medicare beneficiary because of the beneficiary's inability to pay for that care.

§ 418.62 Condition of participation—Informed consent.

A hospice must demonstrate respect for an individual's rights by ensuring that an informed consent form that specifies the type of care and services that may be provided as hospice care during the course of the illness has been obtained for every individual, either from the individual or representative as defined in § 418.3.

§ 418.64 Condition of participation—Inservice training.

A hospice must provide an ongoing program for the training of its employees.

§ 418.66 Condition of participation—Quality assurance.

A hospice must conduct an ongoing, comprehensive, integrated, self-assessment of the quality and appropriateness of care provided, including inpatient care, home care and care provided under arrangements. The findings are used by the hospice to correct identified problems and to revise hospice policies if necessary. Those responsible

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for the quality assurance program must—

(a) Implement and report on activities and mechanisms for monitoring the quality of patient care;

(b) Identify and resolve problems; and

(c) Make suggestions for improving patient care.

§ 418.68 Condition of participation—Interdisciplinary group.

The hospice must designate an interdisciplinary group or groups composed of individuals who provide or supervise the care and services offered by the hospice.

(a) *Standard: Composition of group.* The hospice must have an interdisciplinary group or groups that include at least the following individuals who are employees of the hospice:

(1) A doctor of medicine or osteopathy.

(2) A registered nurse.

(3) A social worker.

(4) A pastoral or other counselor.

(b) *Standard: Role of group.* The interdisciplinary group is responsible for—

(1) Participation in the establishment of the plan of care;

(2) Provision or supervision of hospice care and services;

(3) Periodic review and updating of the plan of care for each individual receiving hospice care; and

(4) Establishment of policies governing the day-to-day provision of hospice care and services.

(c) If a hospice has more than one interdisciplinary group, it must designate in advance the group it chooses to execute the functions described in paragraph (b)(4) of this section.

(d) *Standard: Coordinator.* The hospice must designate a registered nurse to coordinate the implementation of the plan of care for each patient.

§ 418.70 Condition of participation—Volunteers.

The hospice in accordance with the numerical standards, specified in paragraph (e) of this section, uses volunteers, in defined roles, under the supervision of a designated hospice employee.

(a) *Standard: Training.* The hospice must provide appropriate orientation