

§418.64(a) Standard: Physician services

The hospice medical director, physician employees, and contracted physician(s) of the hospice, in conjunction with the patient's attending physician, are responsible for the palliation and management of the terminal illness and conditions related to the terminal illness.

- (1) All physician employees and those under contract, must function under the supervision of the hospice medical director.**
- (2) All physician employees and those under contract shall meet this requirement by either providing the services directly or through coordinating patient care with the attending physician.**
- (3) If the attending physician is unavailable, the medical director, contracted physician, and/or hospice physician employee is responsible for meeting the medical needs of the patient.**

Interpretive Guidelines §418.64(a)

The medical director may also serve as the physician member of the IDG.
