L539 (Rev. 210; Issued:02-03-23; Effective:02-03-23; Implementation:02-03-23)

§418.56(a) Standard: Approach to service delivery

§418.56(a)(1) The hospice must designate an interdisciplinary group or groups composed of individuals who work together to meet the physical, medical, psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual needs of the hospice patients and families facing terminal illness and bereavement. Interdisciplinary group members must provide the care and services offered by the hospice, and the group, in its entirety, must supervise the care and services.

**Interpretive Guidelines §418.56(a)(1)** 

Members of the IDG must be appropriately trained in the hospice philosophy and competent to perform in their assigned area(s). The hospice may involve other members of the care team in the IDG's activities.

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"Supervision" of care by the IDG members may be accomplished by face-to- face or

telephonic conferences, evaluations, discussions and general oversight, as well as by

direct observations.