

**§418.64(d)(3) Spiritual counseling. The hospice must:**

- (i) Provide an assessment of the patients' and family's spiritual needs.**
- (ii) Provide spiritual counseling to meet these needs in accordance with the patient's and family's acceptance of this service, and in a manner consistent with patient and family beliefs and desires.**
- (iii) Make all reasonable efforts to facilitate visits by local clergy, pastoral counselors, or other individuals who can support the patient's spiritual needs to the best of its ability.**
- (iv) Advise the patient and family of this service.**

### **Interpretive Guidelines §418.64(d)(3)**

There should be evidence in the clinical record that the hospice has offered and/or provided spiritual counseling in accordance with the patient/family's desires. If a patient and family desires spiritual counseling, then a hospice should facilitate visits by local clergy, pastoral counselors, or others to the best of its ability.

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