L664 (Rev. 210; Issued:02-03-23; Effective:02-03-23; Implementation:02-03-23)

§418.102 Condition of Participation: Medical director

The hospice must designate a physician to serve as medical director. The medical director must be a doctor of medicine or osteopathy who is an employee, or is under contract with the hospice. When the medical director is not available, a physician designated by the hospice assumes the same responsibilities and obligations as the medical director.

Interpretive Guidelines §418.102

There is only one medical director for the hospice, including all multiple locations, if it has them. That individual may work full time or part time. If the medical director is not a paid employee or a contracted medical director, he/she is considered a volunteer under the control of the hospice. All other hospice physicians function under the supervision of the medical director.