

§418.64(d)(2) Dietary counseling.

Dietary counseling, when identified in the plan of care, must be performed by a qualified individual, which include dietitians as well as nurses and other individuals who are able to address and assure that the dietary needs of the patient are met.

Interpretive Guidelines §418.64(d)(2)

Hospices are required to assure the dietary needs of the patient are met by a qualified individual. If an RN is capable of meeting the patient's needs, then the dietary counseling can be provided by the RN. If the needs of the patient exceed the expertise of the nurse, then the hospice must have available an appropriately trained and qualified individual such as a registered dietitian or nutritionist to meet the patient's dietary needs.
