L541 (Rev. 222; Issued: 06-07-24; Effective: 06-07-24; Implementation: 06-07-24)

§418.56(a)(1) ... The interdisciplinary group must include, but is not limited to, individuals who are qualified and competent to practice in the following professional roles:

- (i) A doctor of medicine or osteopathy (who is an employee or under contract with the hospice).
- i. (ii) A registered nurse.
- ii. (iii) A social worker, marriage and family therapist, or a mental health counselor.
- iii. (iv) A pastoral or other counselor.

Interpretive Guidelines §418.56(a)(1)(i)-(iv)

The number of individuals on the IDG is not as important as their qualifications and abilities. For example, if a group member meets the hospice criteria and is licensed as a RN and also meets the Medicare criteria to be considered a social worker under the hospice benefit, he/she would be qualified to serve on the IDG as both a nurse and a social worker.