
Comprehensive Assessment – Initial PC.C.33

Regulation(s): 42 CFR 418.54(a)
L-Tag(s): 522

POLICY: An initial assessment to determine the patient’s immediate care and support needs is conducted by a hospice RN within 48 hours of the patient’s election of hospice care.

PROCEDURE:

1. A hospice RN conducts an initial assessment of the patient’s immediate care and support needs within twenty-four (24) hours of the patient’s election of hospice care.
2. An initial assessment visit is made earlier than twenty-four (24) hours if requested by the patient/family and/or if the patient’s needs warrant it.
3. The hospice RN completes the initial assessment tool and ensures that orders for treatment and services are obtained to meet the immediate care and support needs of the patient.
4. Based on the patient’s needs and findings from the initial assessment, the hospice RN coordinates and collaborates with disciplines that must participate in the comprehensive assessment of the patient within 5 days of the patient’s election of hospice care.

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