
Physical, Occupational, Speech and Other Therapies PC.P25

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POLICY: Physical therapy (PT), occupational therapy (OT), speech-language pathology services (ST) and other therapies are provided in a manner consistent with accepted standards of practice, when necessary, for the management of symptoms related to the terminal illness.

PROCEDURE:

1. During the comprehensive assessment of the patient, and at any time throughout hospice care. the need for PT, OT, ST or other therapies is evaluated.
2. When the Interdisciplinary Group (IDG) determines that these services are needed for palliation or to help the patient reach optimal functioning, a physician’s order is obtained and the services to be provided are included in the patient’s plan of care.
3. When appropriate, referrals are made for these services and are provided by qualified individuals with whom the hospice has a written agreement.
4. The Director of Clinical Operations (DCO) or designee coordinates and supervises the services provided to the patient to ensure they are in accordance with the patient’s plan of care.
5. PT, OT, ST and other therapies provided are documented in the patient’s clinical record. The DCO ensures that all documentation is obtained and entered into the clinical record of care.
6. At the end of treatment, the therapist provides a summary of services provided and the patient’s response to care.
7. An order to discontinue treatment is obtained from the attending or the hospice physician and documented in the patient’s clinical record

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