

Physician Certification Narratives PC.P28

Regulatory Citation(s): | 42 CFR 418.22(b)(3)
L-Tag(s): | None

POLICY: The physician composes a brief narrative explanation of the clinical findings that support a life expectancy of 6 months or less as part of the certification and recertification process, in accordance with 42 CFR 418.22(b)(3).

PROCEDURE:

1. The narrative is located immediately prior to the physician’s signature.
2. The physician’s narrative is accompanied by an attestation statement directly above the physician’s signature that confirms that the physician composed the narrative based on his/her review of the patient’s medical record or, if applicable, his/her examination of the patient.
3. The physician’s narrative reflects the patient’s individual clinical circumstances and does not contain check boxes or standard language used for all patients.
4. When a patient is recertified for his/her third or later benefit period, the brief narrative is composed by the hospice physician who:
 - a. conducted the face-to-face encounter with the patient; or
 - b. received information regarding the face-to-face encounter from another hospice physician or the hospice nurse practitioner who conducted the face-to-face encounter with the patient.
5. The narrative associated with the third or later benefit period recertification, includes an explanation of how the clinical findings of the face-to-face encounter support a life expectancy of 6 months or less.

Created:	Reviewed:	Revised:	Effective:
9/18	2/19		4/2019
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