

Revocation of the Hospice Benefit PC.R15

Regulatory Citation(s): 42 CFR 418.28; 42 CFR 418.104 (e)(2)
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POLICY: A patient or his/her representative may revoke election of the Medicare Hospice Benefit at any time and for any reason during a benefit period.

PROCEDURE:

1. To revoke the election of hospice care, the patient or representative must sign a revocation statement indicating that Medicare coverage for hospice care is revoked and the date that the revocation is effective.
2. The patient/representative may not designate an effective date earlier than the date the revocation is signed.
3. The patient is advised that s/he may re-elect Medicare coverage for hospice care at any time if eligibility requirements are met.
4. Only the patient or his/her representative may revoke Medicare election. Lifesong Hospice and Palliative Care may not revoke a patient's Medicare election nor pressure the patient to do so for any reason or under any circumstances.
5. Reasons a patient may choose to revoke the Medicare Hospice Benefit may include, but are not limited to the following reasons:
 - a. moving out of the hospice's service area;
 - b. dissatisfaction with the hospice's services;
 - c. choosing to receive care at an inpatient facility with which the hospice does not have a written agreement; and/or
 - d. choosing to seek curative care for treatment of the terminal illness.
6. When a revocation occurs, the hospice sends a discharge summary to the attending physician (if any) that includes, at a minimum:
 - a. the reason for the revocation;
 - b. a summary of the patient's stay including treatments, symptoms and pain management;
 - c. a copy of the patient's current plan of care including medication profile, DNR and advance directives;
 - d. the patient's latest physician orders; and
 - e. any other documentation that will assist in post-discharge continuity of care.

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7. The patient's clinical record is forwarded to the attending physician (if any), if requested.
8. The RN Case Manager or designee notifies the patient's attending physician of the revocation decision and effective date.
9. When a patient revokes the Medicare Hospice Benefit, s/he loses the remaining days in the current benefit period and, if readmitted, enters into the next benefit period

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