



Center for Medicaid and State Operations/Survey and Certification Group

Ref: S&C-09-19

**DATE:** January 2, 2009

**TO:** State Survey Agency Directors

**FROM:** Director  
Survey and Certification Group

**SUBJECT:** Advance Copy – Hospice Program Interpretive Guidance Version 1.1

**Memorandum Summary**

**Hospice Interpretive Guidance Update:** Attached is an advance copy of the Hospice Interpretive Guidance. This Interpretive Guidance will also be published in an updated Appendix M of the State Operations Manual (SOM).

The attached Hospice Program Interpretive Guidance represents the most recent guidance related to the 42 CFR Part 418 Conditions of Participation for Hospice. This Interpretive Guidance should replace all previously-released versions.

**Attachment A** is an advance copy of the interim final Hospice Interpretive Guidance. This guidance will ultimately be published in Appendix M of the SOM. Appendix M in the SOM may differ slightly from this advance copy as the document is still in the internal clearance process.

**Effective Date:** Immediately. Please ensure that all appropriate staff are fully informed within 30 days of the date of this memorandum.

**Training:** The information contained in this letter should be shared with all survey and certification staff, their managers, and the State/RO training coordinators. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact Kim Roche through email at [Kim.roche@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Kim.roche@cms.hhs.gov).

/s/  
Thomas E. Hamilton

cc: Survey and Certification Regional Office Management

Attachment