



SENIOR & LONG TERM CARE DIVISION

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUREAU

Medicaid Hospice Policy Manual

Title: Hospice Policy 502
Section: ELIGIBLE SERVICES
Subject: Special Coverage Requirements
Reference: ARM 37.40.806, 42 CFR 418.204
Supersedes: Policy 502, October 2016

SPECIAL COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

PERIODS OF CRISIS

Nursing care may be covered on a continuous basis for as much as 24 hours a day during periods of crisis as necessary to maintain a member at home. Either homemaker or home health aide (also known as hospice aide) services or both may be covered on a 24-hour continuous basis during periods of crisis but care during these periods must be predominantly nursing care.

A period of crisis is a period in which the member requires continuous care to achieve palliation and management of acute medical symptoms.

RESPITE CARE

Respite care is short-term inpatient care provided to the member only when necessary to relieve the family members or other persons caring for the member. Respite care may be provided only on an occasional basis and may not be reimbursed for more than five consecutive days at a time.

BEREAVEMENT COUNSELING

Bereavement counseling is a required hospice service but it is not reimbursable.