

§2847-J. Coverage for hospice care services

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Hospice care services" means services provided on a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week basis to a person who is terminally ill and that person's family. "Hospice care services" includes, but is not limited to, physician services; nursing care; respite care; medical and social work services; counseling services; nutritional counseling; pain and symptom management; medical supplies and durable medical equipment; occupational, physical or speech therapies; volunteer services; home health care services; and bereavement services. [PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §3 (NEW); PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §5 (AFF).]

B. "Person who is terminally ill" means a person that has a medical prognosis that the person's life expectancy is 12 months or less if the illness runs its normal course. [PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §3 (NEW); PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §5 (AFF).]

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2. Coverage for hospice care services. All group insurance policies and contracts must provide coverage for hospice care services to a person who is terminally ill. Hospice care services must be provided according to a written care delivery plan developed by a hospice care provider and the recipient of hospice care services. Coverage for hospice care services must be provided whether the services are provided in a home setting or an inpatient setting.

[PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §3 (NEW); PL 2001, c. 358, Pt. LL, §5 (AFF).]

3. Application. The requirements of this section apply to all group policies, contracts and certificates executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State. For purposes of this section, all contracts are deemed to be renewed no later than the next yearly anniversary of the contract date.

[PL 2003, c. 517, Pt. B, §21 (NEW).]

REVISOR'S NOTE: §2847-J. Coverage for general anesthesia for dentistry (As enacted by PL 2001, c. 423, §3 and affected by §5 is REALLOCATED TO TITLE 24-A, SECTION 2847-K)

SECTION HISTORY

RR 2001, c. 1, §33 (RAL). PL 2001, c. 358, §LL3 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 358, §LL5 (AFF). PL 2001, c. 423, §3 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 423, §5 (AFF). PL 2003, c. 517, §B21 (AMD).

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