

Qualifying Hospice Guidelines for Cardiac Disease



Heart Disease:

Data from both 1 & 2 should be present to qualify for hospice care

1. Patient has been optimally treated for heart disease. If not on vasodilator pt has a medical reason for refusing these drugs (hypertension or renal disease).
 Patient not a candidate for surgical procedure **OR**
 Patient declines surgical procedure
2. Patient should meet criteria for NYHA Class IV. Significant CHF may be documented by an ejection of <20% but not required if not readily available

NYHA Functional Class

- Class IV Symptoms of CHF at rest / inability to carry on any physical activity w/o discomfort
- Class III Symptoms on minimal exertion
- Class II Symptoms on exertion
- Class I No symptoms with physical activity

Supporting data (not required)

- Tx resistant symptomatic supraventricular or ventricular arrhythmias
- Hx of cardiac arrest or resuscitation
- Hx of unexplained syncope
- Brain embolism of cardiac origin
- Concomitant HIV disease

Information obtained from: ngsmedicare.com/NGSMedicare/lcd/L25678_active_lcd.htm dated 6.5.09. This sheet is designed as a fact-finding tool to help determine prognosis as it relates to making a hospice referral. This sheet is not intended to be used to formulate diagnosis and does not confirm/rule out hospice qualification. If the patient meets the factors below you may wish to make a referral to Hospice of Spokane. You may do so by calling 509.456.0438 or filling out the online referral form at <http://hospiceofspokane.org/admissions.html>.

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Support and Care for Those Living with Terminal Illness