

## Eli's Rehab Report

### Reader Questions: Is A Hospice Patient Qualified for Therapy?

**Question:** A resident was admitted to our skilled nursing facility for a respite stay under hospice (within a 30-day hospitalization), and the family wants her to receive skilled therapy for the admitting diagnosis of a s/p hip fracture under Medicare A. Can the resident receive skilled therapy services and be carried under hospice at the same time?'

**Answer:** Yes, says **Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services** (KDADS). According to the Medicare Benefit A Policy Manual (Chapter 9, Section 20.3), "a beneficiary could be in a SNF under the SNF benefit for a condition unrelated to the terminal condition and simultaneously be receiving hospice for a terminal condition."

**Important:** Also be sure to include condition code 07 on the UB04 to reiterate that the hospice service is unrelated to the reason for the Medicare Part A stay, notes **Marilyn Mines, RN, BC, RAC-CT**, senior manager of clinical services for **FROST Healthcare** in Deerfield, Ill.