

**Hospice of the Shoals 767-6699**

**Stroke or Coma  
Hospice Admission Criteria**

The medical criteria listed below would support a terminal prognosis for individuals with a diagnosis of stroke. Medical criteria 1 and 2 are important indicators of functional and nutritional status respectively, and would thus support a terminal prognosis if met:

1. **Palliative Performance Scale (PPS) of 40**  
Degree of ambulation (mainly in bed)  
Activity/extent of disease (unable to do work; extensive disease)  
Ability to do self-care (mainly assistance)  
Food/fluid intake (normal to reduced)  
State of consciousness (either fully conscious or drowsy/confused)
  
2. **Inability to maintain hydration and caloric intake with one of the following:**  
weight loss 10% during previous 6 months  
weight loss 7.5% in previous 3 months  
serum albumin 2.5 gm/dl  
current history of pulmonary aspiration without effective response to speech  
language pathology intervention  
calorie counts documenting inadequate caloric/fluid intake

If a beneficiary does not meet both medical criteria #1 and #2 the documentation should describe relevant co morbidity and/or rapid decline.  
The medical criteria listed below would support a terminal prognosis for individuals with a diagnosis of coma (any etiology):

**Comatose patient with any 3 of the following on a day three of coma:**

- a.) abnormal brain stem response
- b.) absent verbal response
- c.) absent withdrawal response to pain
- d.) serum creatinine > 1.5 mg/dl

**ICD-9 Codes that support medical necessity:**

- 430 Subarachnoid hemorrhage
- 431 Intracerebral hemorrhage

**Supporting other EOL co morbidities**

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