



PALLIATIVE CARE REFERRAL CRITERIA

Madrone Care Network will evaluate all referrals. We serve Partnership HealthPlan of California and Blue Shield of California patients with Continuity Palliative Care benefits. We also have a self-pay option.

Madrone Care Network is a community-based adult and pediatric Palliative Care provider serving Northern California.

Our in-person visits are provided by local health professionals. We also offer video conferencing or tele-visits.

Who is Eligible?



- 1. Congestive Heart Failure** – hospitalization with CHF as primary diagnosis AND ejection fraction < 30% for systolic failure or significant co-morbidities
- 2. Pulmonary Disease** - COPD, Idiopathic Pulmonary fibrosis, Primary Pulmonary Hypertension, or Cystic Fibrosis
- 3. Advanced Cancer Stage III or IV** – with ECOG score of 3 or 4 OR failure of 2 lines of standard chemo/radiation therapy
- 4. Advanced Liver Disease** – with one of the following: irreversible liver damage, serum albumin < 3.0, INR > 1.3, AND ascites, encephalopathy, esophageal bleeds, sub-acute bacterial peritonitis; OR a MELD score > 19
- 5. Progressive Degenerative Neurologic Disorder** – ALS (PPS score of ≤ 70 , and vital capacity of < 55% predicted), MS, muscular dystrophy, end-stage Myasthenia Gravis, Parkinson's, or late stage dementia
- 6. Hematologic Disease** - Myelodysplastic syndrome dependent on transfusion and unresponsive to treatment OR sickle cell disease with organ failure, severe pulmonary hypertension, stage IV or worse renal disease, or other significant severe vascular disease
- 7. Cerebrovascular Accident** - PPS score of 50% or less AND progressive unintentional weight loss of 10% or more or recurrent infections such as aspiration pneumonia or sepsis

Madrone Care Network Services

- Coordination of individualized care
- Healthcare system navigation
- Pain and symptoms management
- Connection to community resources
- Advanced Care Planning
- Assessment and treatment recommendations
- Provider-to-provider consultation
- Nurse coordination
- Social and emotional support
- Social Work assistance
- Spiritual support
- 24-hour on-call availability

- 8. Renal Disease** - Creatinine clearance of 15 ml/min or less AND discontinuing or declining dialysis and not seeking kidney transplant
- 9. Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)** - CD4 count < 200, or a positive HIV test, AIDS defining condition who chooses to forego antiviral treatment or has one of these conditions: Advanced dementia complex, CNS lymphoma or systemic lymphoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, Mycobacterium avium complex infection- all unresponsive to treatment, progressive wasting syndrome
- 10. Other Conditions** - may be considered on a case to case basis

Please note:

Currently, Medicare does not provide coverage for Palliative Care services. For further inquiries on this matter, please reach out to our Referral department.

Our specialized Palliative Care team, consisting of physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, social workers, chaplains, community health workers, and others, collaborates with the patient's families and specialists to provide an additional layer of support.

Ronald Sand, MD, ABHPM
Chief Medical Officer

Zahra Esmail, DO, ABHPM
Palliative Care Consultant

Justin Chang, DO, ABHPM
Palliative Care Physician

Norma Marks, MD
Palliative Care Physician

Cary Smeltzer, DO
Palliative Care Physician

Lynn Meadows, PA
Advance Practice Provider

Emily Frey, PA
Advance Practice Provider



- 1. Congestive Heart Failure** – with history of hospitalization with CHF as primary diagnosis and ejection fraction < 30% for systolic failure or significant co-morbidities
- 2. COPD** – oxygen dependent
- 3. Advanced Cancer Stage III or IV** – Karnofsky Score $\leq 70\%$ or failure of two lines of standard chemo/radiation therapy
- 4. Liver Disease** – with one of the following: ascites, encephalopathy, esophageal bleeds, sub-acute bacterial peritonitis
- 5. Cerebral Vascular Accident/Stroke**
- 6. Chronic kidney disease (CKD) or end-stage renal disease (ESRD)**
- 7. Severe dementia/Alzheimer's**

Nurturing hope, providing supportive care, and offering comfort for those living with serious illnesses

GET IN TOUCH:

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referral form

