



LIBERTANA®
LIFE | HEALTH | FREEDOM



A Pediatric Palliative Home Care
Program for Children with Life-
Threatening Conditions

LIBERTANA CARE PARTNERS

I. BACKGROUND

Palliative care for children with life-threatening or life-limiting conditions is defined as an active approach to comprehensive comfort-oriented care for children, youths, and families. The purpose of pediatric palliative care is to enhance quality of life, minimize suffering, and provide emotional support through interdisciplinary services and interventions. Palliative care can be performed for non-terminal patients, and patients can receive palliative services while still continuing to receive active treatment for their condition. The goal of palliative care is to help patients enhance their quality of life and to prevent ER visits and hospitalizations. Palliative care can also provide support around condition progression and the end of life process when necessary; however, this is not the primary focus of our service.

Libertana Care Partners provides support in the home setting through a team of pediatric specialists including registered nurses, social workers, chaplains, and expressive therapists to provide an extra layer of support for patients, parents, and siblings to enhance coping and comfort in relation to complex medical conditions.

II. SERVICES OFFERED

- Comprehensive case management and care coordination to ensure patient's safety and comfort needs are met in the home environment. Oftentimes we provide support and advocacy in relation to getting durable medical equipment and supplies that are not covered by patient's insurance through California Children's Services or Medi-Cal.
- RN visits provide support around pain and symptom management and around family training in relation to palliative care issues, care needs, treatments, and use of equipment
- Social work visits to assess for patient and family need for support and resources, referral to community programs, and counseling support
- Expressive therapies including art, music, and massage therapy. At this time expressive therapies are *only* offered to children enrolled in **Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans** including:
 - **LA Care Health Plan**
 - **Health Net**
 - **Anthem**
 - **Blue Shield Promise**
 - **Molina Healthcare**

III. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1. Be enrolled/eligible for full scope, no share of cost Medi-Cal
2. Be under 21 years of age
3. Have a medical condition represented on the following list:
 - Conditions for which curative treatment is possible, but may fail (e.g. advanced or progressive cancer, or complex and severe congenital or acquired heart disease); or
 - Conditions requiring intensive long-term treatment aimed at maintaining quality of life (e.g. Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection, cystic fibrosis, or muscular dystrophy); or
 - Progressive conditions in which treatment is exclusively palliative after diagnosis (e.g. progressive metabolic disorders or severe forms of osteogenesis imperfecta); or
 - Conditions involving severe, non-progressive disability, or causing extreme vulnerability to health complications (e.g. extreme prematurity, severe neurologic sequelae of infectious disease or trauma, severe cerebral palsy with recurrent infection or difficult-to-control symptoms
4. Not currently enrolled in hospice or another community based palliative care program. *Patients are still eligible to receive community based palliative care services if they are enrolled in another Medi-Cal waiver program, Regional Center, California Children's Services, and/or EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Services). Libertana Care Partners works alongside these programs.*

Examples of eligible conditions include, but are not limited to the following conditions:

Neoplasms ICD-10 Codes C55, C58, C61, C73

- Neoplasm, Stage 3 or 4
- Any neoplasm not responding to conventional protocol (at least one relapse)
- Central nervous system tumors

Cardiac

- Major cardiac malformations for which surgical repair is not an option or awaiting surgery or transplant
- Severe anomalies of Aorta and/or Pulmonary Arteries
- Heart Failure ICD-10 Codes I50.814, I50.9, I50.1, I50.810-I50.813, I50.82 - I50.84, I50.89, I50.9

Pulmonary

- Cystic Fibrosis with multiple hospitalizations or emergency department visits in the previous year
- Pulmonary hypertension ICD-10 Codes I27.20, I27.1, I27.82, I27.20 - I27.24, I27.29, I27.89
- Refractory pulmonary hypertension ICD-10 Code I27.20
- Pulmonary hemorrhage ICD-10 Codes P26.1, P26.8, R04.81
- Chronic or severe respiratory failure

Immune

- AIDS with multiple hospitalizations or emergency department visits in the previous year ICD-10 Code B20
- Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Disorder ICD-10 Code D81.0, D81.1, D81.2, D81.89, D81.9
- Other severe immunodeficiencies

Gastrointestinal

- Chronic intestinal failure dependent on TPN ICD-10 Code K91.2
- Other severe gastrointestinal malformations ICD-10 Codes Q41.9, Q42.9, Q43.1, Q43.4, Q43.5, Q43.7, 43.8
- Liver failure in cases in which transplant is not an option or awaiting transplant ICD-10 Codes K72.00, K76.2, K72.10, K72.90, Q44.2, Q44.3,

Renal

- Renal failure in cases in which dialysis or transplant are not an option, or awaiting transplant ICD-10 Codes N18.6, N19

Neurologic

- Holoprosencephaly or other severe brain malformations requiring ventilatory or alimentary support with at least four hospitalizations or emergency department visits in the previous year ICD-10 Code Q04.1, Q04.3
- CNS injury with severe comorbidities
- Severe cerebral palsy/HIE with recurrent infections or difficult-to-control symptoms
- Batten Disease ICD-10 Code E75.02, E75.19, E75.4
- Severe neurologic sequelae of infectious disease or trauma ICD-10 Codes G91.1

Metabolic

- Severe and progressive metabolic disorders including, but not limited to: leukodystrophy, Tay-Sachs disease, and others with severe comorbidities ICD-10 Codes E75.23, E75.25, E75.29, E75.02, E75.19, E75.4, F84.2, G31.81, G31.82
- Mucopolysaccharidoses that meets Level of Care criteria below ICD-10 Code E76.01, E76.03, E76.1, E76.219, E76.22, E76.29, E76.3

Neuromuscular

- Muscular dystrophy requiring ventilatory assistance (at least nocturnal BiPAP) ICD-10 Codes G71.2, G71.0
- Spinal muscular atrophy, Type I or II ICD-10 Codes G12.0 – G12.8
- Other myopathy or neuropathy with severity that meets Level of Care criteria below ICD-10 Codes G12.8, G12.9

Other conditions that meet Level of Care criteria (#4 on left panel), including but not limited to:

- Severe epidermolysis bullosa ICD-10 Code Q81.9, Q82.6, Q82.8
- Severe osteogenesis imperfect ICD-10 Code Q78.0
- Congenital infection with severe sequelae (e.g. CMV, HSV, toxoplasmosis) ICD-10 Codes P35.0 - P35.2, P37.0, P37.1, P37.2, P37.3, P37.4, P37.8
- Post-organ transplant with complications

Other conditions will be reviewed on case by case basis

IV. **REFERRALS**

1. Referral forms should be completed by the child's primary care physician, or specialist treating the palliative care eligible condition
2. History and physical should be included when submitting the referral form. ER/Hospitalization discharge summaries from the past 12 months should be included when possible.
3. Upon receiving the referral form and supporting documentation, Libertana Care Partners submits the application to the appropriate Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan to request authorization of services. Libertana Care Partners will notify families directly of the outcome of their application.

We are happy for families, allied health staff, and other care providers in the community to contact us directly to inquire about potential eligibility and to provide support and coordination around referral from physicians at (800) 750 1444 or (818) 902 5000 or via email at palliative@libertana.com