LET US HELP YOU HELP YOUR PATIENTS.

Coastal Care Choices™

A Registered Nurse coordinates care.

Your patient gets support.

All without giving up active treatment.

A 5-YEAR STUDY OF
A NEW MEDICARE MODEL
FOR YOUR PATIENTS WITH
• CANCER
• HIV/AIDS
• COPD
• CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Medicare is conducting a study of the long-term effects of concurrent treatment and palliative care. Their objective in testing this model is to address research questions focused on whether the model would:

1. Increase access to supportive care services provided by hospice;
2. Improve quality of life and patient/family satisfaction; and
3. Inform new payment systems for the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Coastal Care Choices is a Medicare model for patients with advanced cancers, COPD, congestive heart failure or HIV/AIDS who have a limited prognosis (6 months or less).

Your Medicare patients may be approved to receive care coordination and support from an established hospice and palliative care provider while concurrently receiving active treatments.

844-422-7958 CoastalCareChoices.org

Coastal Care Choices is a Medicare-authorized program of Coastal Hospice & Palliative Care
BENEFITS

BENEFITS FOR THE PHYSICIAN:

- You remain the primary physician in charge of your patient’s care.
- A registered nurse will triage calls for symptom and pain management 24/7 and direct the patient appropriately.
- Re-hospitalizations may be reduced.
- You can simultaneously recommend curative treatments and the support of home-based palliative care.
- You can receive assistance with the patient’s Advanced Directive Care Planning.
- Your office will experience no changes in Medicare billing.

BENEFITS FOR THE PATIENT AND FAMILY:

- The patient is freed from the difficult choice between treating their disease and receiving hospice-like support from an interdisciplinary team.
- Coastal Care Choices coaches and educates the patient and family so they understand their treatment plan.
- A registered nurse is a phone call away 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Patient goals and treatments are communicated throughout the network of care providers.
- Social and spiritual care is provided by social workers, chaplains and volunteers.
- If the goal of care changes, a smooth transition is made from curative treatment to hospice care.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Who is responsible for directing the care of a patient enrolled in Coastal Care Choices?
A. You are. We are here to assist you, the referring physician.

Q. Is Coastal Care Choices hospice care?
A. No, and the hospice benefit is not activated.

Q. If the patient has a 6-month prognosis when entering Coastal Care Choices but subsequently improves, can the patient remain in the program?
A. Yes, enrollment is open-ended. There is no recertification period. The patient may stay in the program regardless of whether their health improves. The program takes into account the patient’s illness may not follow a predictable trajectory.

Q. Does it matter where the patient lives?
A. At the time of referral, the patient must be living in a traditional home. However, the patient may continue in Coastal Care Choices if they are subsequently hospitalized for as long as needed or in a skilled nursing facility up to 90 days.

Q. Once the patient enrolls in Coastal Care Choices, can they elect the full Medicare hospice benefit at a later date?
A. Yes. A patient may choose to leave Coastal Care Choices at any point. If they leave, one option is to elect full hospice care. Once enrolled in hospice, however, the patient would not be eligible to return to Coastal Care Choices.

Q. Can patients assigned to Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) participate?
A. Yes, patients of ACOs are eligible.

Q. Are patients enrolled in cardiac or pulmonary rehabilitations programs eligible?
A. Yes. They may participate if they otherwise meet the eligibility requirements.

Q. Can the patient be hospitalized and remain in Coastal Care Choices?
A. Yes. An inpatient hospital stay is billed under Medicare Part A.

Q. Who established the eligibility requirements for this program?
A. Medicare established the eligibility requirements for this investigative study.

Q. Will I or my staff have to collect data for this study?
A. No. Coastal Care Choices is responsible for collecting data and submitting information to Medicare.
PATIENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Patient has been diagnosed with advanced cancer, COPD, HIV/AIDS or congestive heart failure.
- Patient is living in a traditional home (i.e. not a nursing home or assisted living) at the time of enrollment.
- Patient is enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B.
- Patient has not participated in a managed Medicare plan for at least the last two open enrollment years.
- Patient has had at least one hospitalization encounter in the last 12 months.
- Patient has had three office visits within the last 12 months with a Medicare-enrolled physician who will certify their prognosis. All three visits must be related to the qualifying diagnosis.
- Patient’s prognosis is six months or less if the disease follows its usual course.
- Patient has not elected the Medicare or Medicaid hospice benefit within the last 30 days.
- Patient agrees to actively participate in the program and signs the enrollment form.