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Aloha CMA and CCFFH Operators,

The information contained in this official newsletter has been reviewed and approved by DOH/OHCA. It is being distributed to all CMAs and CCFFHs.

Newsletter #135

February 27, 2025

New Med-QUEST Benefit: Community Based Palliative Care Services Webinar Series March 2025

Aloha!

This year, Hawaii became the first state in the nation to offer community-based palliative care for Medicaid (Med-QUEST) beneficiaries.

Palliative care is now available as soon as a patient is diagnosed with a serious illness as a covered preventative benefit. It is available for patients who may be receiving curative treatments but need the extra support that a palliative care team can provide. ([Click here for official documents](#) and a 3-page summary.)

Through a grant from **Hui Pohala**, Kōkua Mau has produced a series of four webinars to help healthcare professionals and members of managed care plans

Please help us spread the word and share this announcement with colleagues. To learn more about palliative care, [visit our resources](#).

Webinar #1:**Overview of the Palliative Care Services Benefit****Thur, March 13, 2025****Noon to 1 pm HST**

- [Register Today for March 13!](#)

In this first webinar, you'll learn about what is included in the Med-QUEST benefit, including patient eligibility requirements, assessments and services and the benefits of palliative care from an actual case study. Ideal for healthcare professionals who want to learn more about the new benefit and how they can make referrals to help their patients.

Speakers:

Dr. Daniel Fischberg has served as the Medical Director of the Pain and Palliative Care Department at The Queen's Medical Center for more than 20 years and is Chief of the Division of Palliative Medicine and Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Torrie Fields, MPH, CEO of TFA Analytics, was instrumental in the creation of the benefit and is now working on implementation. She serves as strategic advisor to the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC), and the Hawaii Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division.

A 45-minute presentation will be followed by a live, interactive 15-minute Q&A session.

Other Upcoming Webinars

Watch for more information on these upcoming webinars which will be held every week at noon throughout March and beginning of April. Please register for each webinar separately.

Webinar #2:**Care Coordination under the Community-based Palliative Care Benefit**

Learn who can provide palliative care, reimbursement codes, and more.

- [Register Today- March 20!](#)

Webinar #3:

Pediatric Palliative Care Benefit

Tuesday March 25, 2025

Noon - 1 pm

Find out what is covered in this palliative care benefit for children.

- [Register Today- March 25!](#)

Webinar #4:

How the New Benefit Helps You and Your Family

Thur April 3, 2025

Noon - 1pm

Med-QUEST beneficiaries and those who serve them will gain practical insights into this benefit in terms that are easy to understand. The session is for the public and all are welcome.

- [Register Today- April 3!](#)

For questions about the webinar series, please contact info@kokuamau.org

Resources

Three-page Policy Summary of Community Palliative Care Benefit Implementation. Click here for a 3-page PDF [Policy Summary](#)

DHS's Palliative Care Implementation Memo

Click here for a PDF of the [Palliative Care Implementation Plan](#)

[Learn more about Palliative Care](#) including videos, FAQs and other resources

For questions about the webinar series, please contact info@kokuamau.org

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