

# Physician's Guide for Concurrent Care

## No Preauthorization Required

UHA does not require Preauthorization or an attestation of patient's life expectancy of six months or less. However, standard reviews for medical necessity may be conducted.

### Questions?

If you have questions about UHA's concurrent care benefits, our Health Care Services team would be glad to assist you.

Call us at (808) 532-4006 or toll free at  
1 (800) 458-4600, ext. 300.

We can also connect you with a  
comfort care provider.



## UHA Covers your Patients with An Extra Dimension of Care

UHA, Hawaii's only health plan established by physicians, continues to ensure our policies and practices make clinical sense so your patients receive optimal care. That's why UHA was the first in the nation to introduce a concurrent care model for patients who have serious and chronic illnesses or life-limiting medical conditions.

### Best of Both Worlds

Physicians can offer their patients who are covered by UHA an extra dimension of care. Under the concurrent care model, your patients have the best of both worlds. Patients with life-limiting conditions can initiate or continue necessary indicated therapy with life prolonging intent and also receive the advantages of comfort care. Studies have shown that those who have incurable conditions live longer and have a better quality of life when their treatment is accompanied by comfort care. This is in distinct contrast to standard Medicare indications and restrictions on "Hospice."

### Qualifying Conditions

Qualifying conditions include but are not limited to the following:

- Cancer
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)
- Kidney Failure
- Alzheimer's Disease
- Parkinson's Disease
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

### Curative Treatment

Curative treatments include but are not limited to the following:

- medical
- surgical
- radiological
- hemodialysis

## Four Simple Criteria for Concurrent Care

**1** A patient must be diagnosed with a disease that is active, progressive and irreversible that will result in a reduced life expectancy.

**2** A physician must prescribe concurrent care for a patient in writing.

**3** Comfort care services must be provided by a Medicare-certified hospice program under contract with UHA. Hospice programs such as St. Francis Community Health Services (Hospice), Hospice Hawaii, Hospice of Kona, Bristol Hospice, Islands Hospice are currently under contract with UHA.

**4** The interdisciplinary comfort care for a patient must be documented.

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*Please note that UHA's medical policy does not take precedence over a provider's judgment about what constitutes appropriate treatment.*