

MEDICAID PROVIDER BULLETIN

January 2019

Aspire Health now provides palliative care for Medicaid members

Effective November 2018, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicaid began working with Aspire Health to provide in-home services to our members facing advanced illness.

Aspire offers a solution to the fragmented and expensive care that patients so often experience during the last chapter of life. By working with community physicians to enroll and serve these vulnerable patients in their homes, Aspire helps patients increase their overall comfort, increase their satisfaction with both their PCP and their health plan, and minimize the risk of unnecessary or unwanted hospitalizations.

The typical Aspire patients are usually a physician's sickest and incur high utilization costs. They are confronting multiple illnesses, such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, advanced cancers, dementia, geriatric frailty, chronic or end-stage renal disease, chronic liver disease, cerebro-vascular accidents and other neurologic illnesses. They may be seeing multiple providers or seeking care frequently in emergency rooms and hospitals. The majority of these patients receive care that is both high-cost and low-value, often resulting in frequent hospitalizations for uncontrolled symptoms/exacerbations of chronic disease. They may have limited family support or family caregivers with their own health concerns. The Aspire team works to align medical care with a patient's goals and values. Through patient and caregiver education, and expert symptom management, Aspire enables patients to avoid unnecessary emergency department visits and hospitalizations.

More information is available at www.aspirehealthcare.com or by calling the 24/7 Patient & Referral Hotline at **1-877-702-6863**.



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