

End of Life Services at Kline Galland Benaroya Community Services: Hospice

Review Cycle:

- Annual
- Every two years
- Every three years

Initial Approval & Subsequent Review

Dates: 9.1.23; 12.13.23

Policy Owner: Administrator, Kline Galland Benaroya Community Services

POLICY

1. **End of Life Services; Death with Dignity.** Kline Galland Benaroya Community Services, which includes hospice, acknowledges that Washington State law recognizes certain patient rights under the Death with Dignity Act (“Death with Dignity Act” or the “Act”). All providers and staff at Kline Galland Benaroya Community Services are expected to respond to any patient’s query about life ending medication with openness and compassion. Providers and staff provide support to patients who access end of life services through the Death with Dignity Act, consistent with Section 2 below.
2. **End of Life Services – Kline Galland Providers Including Hospice.** Kline Galland hospice providers respect the right of each individual to make choices under the Death with Dignity Act. Kline Galland provides consulting provider review and confirmation services under the Act, as well as other services and support to patients accessing care under the Death with Dignity Act. However, Kline Galland providers, including its hospice agency providers, while acting within their scope of employment or under contract with Kline Galland, do not act as prescribing (attending) providers for medication to hasten death under the Act.

Kline Galland’s hospice providers will work to help any dying patient to be as comfortable as possible by controlling pain and other physical, emotional and spiritual symptoms associated with the dying process. Hospice care is provided by members of the interdisciplinary team which includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, nursing assistants, physicians, massage therapists for comfort therapy, music therapists and volunteers.

3. **Contacts for More Information.** Patients or clients who would like more specific information regarding end of life services available at Kline Galland Benaroya Community Services may contact the Kline Galland Director of Hospice at 206-805-1930. The Director may also provide the names of organizations in the community that can provide information regarding the Death with Dignity Act.

Regulatory Citations: RCW 70.127.010; RCW 70.245