Purpose:
To describe SCL Health Facility’s position with respect to the Colorado End-of-Life Options Act and to describe procedures for managing patient requests for Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication.

SCL Health Facilities are committed to providing the best possible care for patients approaching the end-of-life, or actively dying, which includes curative and comfort care, including palliative care and/or hospice. Our care of all persons strives to mitigate suffering and address the fear of loss of control and pain that patients may experience.

Scope:
This policy applies to all persons working for or on behalf of SCL Health Facility; Physicians and Providers who are employed by an SCL Health Facility; and Physicians and Providers providing services at all SCL Health Facilities only within Colorado. Exception: Platte Valley Medical Center and Platte Valley Medical Group.

Definitions:
Colorado End-of-Life Options Act — Colorado law allowing qualified, terminally ill adults to obtain and self-administer a lethal dose of medication to voluntarily end their lives.


Physician — doctor of medicine or osteopathy licensed to practice medicine by the Medical Board for the State of Colorado.

Provider — a person who is licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized or permitted by law to administer healthcare or dispense medication in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession. The term includes a health care facility, including a long-term care facility and a continuing care retirement community.

SCL Health Facility — an SCL Health healthcare facility that is a Controlled Corporation, as that term is defined in the SCL Health Bylaws, and any entity owned in part by SCL Health or an affiliate and/or managed by SCL Health or an affiliate, if that facility has adopted the policy as its own.
Policy:
1. As permitted by Colorado Revised Statutes 25-48-118 (Colorado End-of-Life Options Act), SCL Health Facilities prohibit Physicians and Providers who are employed by an SCL Health Facility, as well as Physicians and Providers while providing services at or in the name of SCL Health Facilities, or while providing services on behalf of an SCL Health Facility, from prescribing or dispensing Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication for patients of SCL Health Facilities.
   a. Physicians and Providers who are employed by an SCL Health Facility, as well as Physicians and Providers while providing services at or in the name of SCL Health Facilities, or while providing services on behalf of an SCL Health Facility are not permitted to engage in qualifying a patient for the intention of receiving Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication prescription.

2. Physicians and Providers providing services at SCL Health Facilities may discuss the range of available treatment options with patients to ensure patients are making informed decisions with respect to their care.

3. Patients in any SCL Health Facility shall not utilize Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication while in an SCL Health Facility.

4. Pharmacies in, managed by or who lease space within an SCL Health Facility will not dispense or dispose of the medication intended to be used as Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication.

5. Policy Violation
   a. Any SCL Health Facility associate and Provider who fails to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or medical staff membership.

Procedure: Colorado End-of-Life Options Act - SCL Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Required Action Step (step by step process)</th>
<th>Performed By</th>
<th>Supplemental Guidance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Patient requests Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication.</td>
<td>Physicians and Providers</td>
<td>If a patient at an SCL Health Facility requests Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication, the patient’s Physician or Provider may assist the patient in transferring his or her care to a non-SCL Health Facility.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Patient denies transfer.</td>
<td>Physicians and Providers</td>
<td>If a patient declines to transfer his or her care to a non-SCL Health Facility, the patient’s Physician or Provider may inform the patient of available treatment options at the SCL Health Facility, which may include, when medically appropriate, alternative or additional treatment, comfort care, palliative care, hospice care, and pain control. Chaplains and ethics committees will be available for consultation with respect to patients who have requested Medical</td>
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**Aid-in-Dying Medication.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Patient at an SCL Health Facility obtains Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication.</th>
<th>Physicians and Providers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>In the event a patient at an SCL Health Facility has obtained Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication, the patient shall not be permitted to use such Medical Aid-in-Dying Medication at the SCL Health Facility, and SCL Health Facility staff and the patient's Physician or Provider may assist the patient in transferring his or her care to a non-SCL Health Facility.</td>
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</table>

**References:**
- Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 25, Article 48.

**Other Related Policies:**
- None

**Supporting Documents:**
- None

**Monitoring:**
Not Applicable

**Revision History:**
Original Creation Date: 01/05/2017
Date(s) Revised: 01/10/2017, 01/28/2017