

**Madrone Hospice Inc.**  
**Administrative Policies and Operating Procedures**

**Section:** Patient Care Services/ Ethics Committee

**Policy Title:** California's End of Life Option Act-*Organization Wide*

**Section:** Medical Aid in Dying

**PURPOSE**

The intention of the policy is to outline the relationship and procedural approach Madrone Hospice, Inc (MHI) will uphold regarding the California End of Life Option Act (CEOLOA).

CEOLOA allows adults who are diagnosed with a terminal disease to seek aid in dying from their physician. MHI reaffirms that a basic element of the hospice philosophy is to acknowledge that dying is a natural process, and that hospice will neither seek to hasten nor postpone death. MHI also reaffirms the philosophy that hospice does not abandon dying patients and their families.

**POLICY**

In the event that a hospice patient wishes to avail themselves of their legal right under the CEOLOA, MHI medical staff will not seek to hasten death nor abandon the patient or their family. Staff will continue to provide physical, social, spiritual, and emotional comfort to the patient and family, and will recognize the pursuit of medical aid in dying as a matter between the patient and his or her physician. MHI medical staff may not provide, deliver, or administer life-ending medication.

Staff and volunteers who are morally or ethically opposed to CEOLOA will have the option of transferring care responsibility to other staff.