



# County of San Mateo

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

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**Department:** HEALTH

**File #:** 18-332

Board Meeting Date: 4/24/2018

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**Special Notice / Hearing:** None  
**Vote Required:** Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Louise F. Rogers, Chief, Health System  
Chester J. Kunnappilly, MD, Chief Executive Officer, San Mateo Medical Center

**Subject:** Agreement with Carol Tabak, MD for Palliative Care and Surgery Services

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing an agreement with Carol Tabak, MD for palliative care and surgery services for the term of June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$130,000.

**BACKGROUND:**

Palliative care offers pain and symptom management, and emotional and spiritual support for patients who face a chronic, debilitating, or life-threatening illness. The palliative care specialist works with patients, their families, and the care team to help improve the quality of life during and after treatment for specific medical concerns. The care services are provided in tandem with life-prolonging therapies.

Dr. Tabak has provided surgery services to the patients of San Mateo Medical Center (SMMC) since September 2016 and palliative care services since December 2017.

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Tabak will continue to provide palliative care services at SMMC and assume inpatient and outpatient consulting with patients' families for advanced care planning and bioethical issues on an "as needed" basis. In addition, Dr. Tabak will provide one clinic block of surgical services per week.

County Administrative Memorandum B-1 provides that contracts for physicians are exempt from the Request for Proposals process.

The agreement and Resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

The Resolution contains the County's standard provisions allowing amendment of the County fiscal obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Healthy Community by providing palliative care services to County residents. Palliative care supports patients in making thoughtful decisions regarding care for late stage disease. It is anticipated that more than 50% of all palliative care patients discharged from inpatient service will have “Goals-of-Care” completed within seven (7) days of discharge.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE:**

Measure	FY 2016-17 Actual	FY 2017-18 Projected
Percentage of all palliative care patients discharged from inpatient service completing “Goals-of-Care” within seven (7) days of discharge	<20%	>50%

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The term of the agreement is June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019. The amount of the agreement is not to exceed \$130,000 for the one-year term. Funds in the amount of \$11,000 are included in the SMMC FY 2017-18 Approved Budget. Funds in the amount of \$119,000 will be included in the SMMC FY 2018-19 Recommended Budget.

The payment terms of in this agreement are the same as the previous agreement.

Expenses at SMMC are covered by fees for services or third-party payors whenever possible. The portion of expenses for services provided to the medically indigent or to those covered by programs that do not meet the full costs of care are covered by the County’s General Fund contribution to SMMC, and are within the existing annual appropriation.