

# **Breath** — Respiratory Palliative Care

## *Specialized Hospice Care Focused on the Needs of Respiratory Patients*



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The goal of **Breath** is to provide advanced respiratory patients with comprehensive medical care and support services geared toward maximizing functioning, managing symptoms and keeping patients in their home.

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### **Services Available:**

- Home-based case management including nursing, social work, clergy, personal care, medical equipment and medication coverage
- Continuation of medical treatments and/or monitoring done with a goal of symptom control
- Continuation of Primary Physician control over patient's care plan, as well as consultation with Palliative Care Physician as needed
- 24-hour on-call system that brings skilled care to the home in times of crises or change, providing alternative to *unwanted hospital admissions*
- Intensive patient and caregiver education for disease management and self care, including early identification of infections, monitoring saturation, medication and diet compliance and proactive planning for crises
- Coverage of short-term hospital stays when necessary for symptom control
- Palliative focused interdisciplinary care to follow patient and family throughout disease process, including bereavement services

### **Eligibility:**

- End stage lung disease of any origination with maximized therapies; DNR ***not*** a requirement
  - As evidenced by dyspnea, O2 dependence, hyperventilation, cyanosis, hypoxemia at rest on supplemental O2, recurrent infections or hospitalizations (***not*** all have to be present)
- STHPC's medical staff reviews all patients periodically to assure they meet eligibility requirements
- Full services available to residents of Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler Counties, including residents of skilled nursing facilities

### **Coverage:**

- 100% coverage through Medicare, Medicaid and most private insurances; sliding fee scale for uninsured

### **To Refer:**

- For patient referral, call Southern Tier Hospice and Palliative Care Admissions at 962-3100
- For questions or in-services, call Robin Stawasz, Provider Relations Director, at 962-4100, ext. 152