This figure provides an overview of the care model for SB 1004 Medi-Cal palliative care. The design is adapted from the National Consensus Project for Quality Palliative Care.

At initial diagnosis of serious illness, early palliative care may accompany disease modifying care (curative care or restorative intent). Early palliative care is often advance care planning and/or palliative care consultation, and can include pain and symptom management as needed. The wavy line indicates that the proportion of palliative care varies based on individual patient choices and needs. As the patient’s illness progresses, those with serious illness who meet specific clinical eligibility criteria can be enrolled in SB 1004 palliative care programs and also continue to access disease modifying care. As the patient’s illness progresses further, those who meet hospice eligibility criteria can disenroll from SB 1004 palliative care, and enroll in hospice to receive additional comfort care and forego further disease modifying care. Note that specific services for individual patients are based on medical necessity, and this figure is for general descriptive purposes only. Additional options are available for beneficiaries under age 21.

*Patients with serious illness can complete a Physicians Authorization for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form with their provider. The POLST is a statewide standard form for seriously ill patients to indicate to medical personnel whether the patient desires or declines resuscitation, intubation, feeding tubes and other interventions.