# The Loss of Normalcy: Coping with Grief and Uncertainty During COVID-19



This webinar is for educational purposes only and not a substitute for speaking with your doctor.

Find Magellan contact information here: magellanhealthcare.com/contact/

If you are in an emergency situation, you should do one of the following:

- Call 911.
- Go directly to an emergency room.
- Call your doctor or therapist for help.

## Objectives

Identify the different types of grief and loss

Learn coping strategies for managing grief and supporting others

Recognize signs professional help may be needed

# Today's Presenters



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# The Loss of Normalcy

### How to coronavirus has disrupted our lives

Loss of routines

Stress of social distance

Health concerns

Job concerns

Human need for structure and certainty

# Reasons We Are Feeling Grief

About grief

Grief specific to the pandemic

Stages of grief

Anticipatory grief

# Different Types of Grief and Loss

#### How grief manifests

Emotional (denial/disbelief, anger, fear, guilt, helplessness, anxiety, depression, acceptance, relief)

Physical (trouble sleeping, changes in appetite, fatigue, muscle aches, illness)

Social (withdrawal, isolation, irritability, conflict)

#### **Complicated grief**

Inability to say goodbye

Funerals/memorial services postponed

Grief put on hold to care for others

Multiple losses

Dreams put on hold

#### Time tables of grief

Patience is important

No wrong or right way to grieve

# **Coping Strategies for Managing Symptoms**



Understanding grief as an ongoing process

Avoid allowing yourself to obsess or overly consume media

Recognizing grieving isn't forgetting or totally letting go

Understanding with grief comes growth

Avoid allowing yourself to obsess or overly consume media

Recognizing grieving

# More Strategies for Managing Symptoms

Learn from adversity

Build a virtual support system

Focus on hope

Take care of yourself

Expect change

Practice gratitude

# How to Help Others

What to say

Listen

Avoid giving advice

Don't take things personally

Offer to help



# How to Help Ourselves

Take a break from things

Focus on the present

Engage in self-care and nourishing activities

Grant permission to feel



# Recognizing Signs Professional Help May be Needed

- Feeling life has no meaning or feeling suicidal
- Blaming yourself for what has happened
- Engaging in self-harm or other unhelpful forms of coping
- Struggling with routine activities not taking care of hygiene, ongoing problems sleeping, not eating

# Finding Meaning in Grief and Loss

Wounds as gifts Embracing life



#### Resources

#### Magellan Healthcare COVID-19 Response

Web page: Click here for Magellan Healthcare COVID-19 Response website

Continuously updated resources for our communities, clients, members and providers

Trusted sources for COVID-19 information

Videos, webinars and articles on coping with change, emotions, uncertainty stress, etc.

Magellan Mind Your Mental Health resources for mental health awareness and education

Virtual recovery meetings

Magellan Crisis Resources

Information on Magellan product and service solutions

Magellan client and provider updates

Contact your medical or therapy provider for support Reach out to your Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for resources to enhance emotional wellness

