

# The Science, The Art, and The Heart Bringing Palliative Care Education to the Bedside



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# Purpose

To design and implement an evidence based, nine-month Palliative Care Fellowship (PCF) to meet gaps in knowledge, skills and practice.

## Background

Main Line Health (MLH) is a non-profit, Magnet designated health system serving the Philadelphia area.

PCF outcomes aligned with System and Nursing vision and strategic goals.

Endorsed and sponsored by Nursing Leadership.

The PCF is directed and facilitated by MLH Palliative Care (PC) team members.

Curriculum development utilized the National Consensus Project (NCP) 8 Domains for Quality Palliative Care

#### Review of Literature

The Academy of Medicine calls for  $\rightarrow$  increased number of educated specialty providers to ensure equitable access to quality PC.

Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) reports -> high quality PC results in satisfaction, improved outcomes and expenditure reduction.

The Yale End of Life Professional Care Giver Survey (EPCS) -> is a validated evaluation tool for palliative and end of life care skills among licensed health care professionals.

# Program Requirements

- Journal entries and completion of CAPC modules Completion of 48 didactic hours & 3 campus meetings
  - 12 clinical shadowing hours
  - Completion of a Palliative Care Evidence Based Practice Project
  - Prepare for certification → Pain Management or Hospice & Palliative Care
  - Attending a 4 hour poster presentation & graduation

# Statistical Analysis

Yale EPCS was used (with permission) as a pre & post test tool to analyze learning response of 2018-2019 PCF cohort.

Questions aggregated into three domains.

Patient and Family Centered Communication (PFCC)

Cultural and Ethical Values (CEV)

Effective Care Delivery (ECD)

**EPCS** Domain **5 Point Likert Scale Mean** 

PFCC (p<.05)

Pre → Post  $2.6 \rightarrow 3.4$ 

CEV (p<.05)

Pre → Post  $2.3 \rightarrow 3.4$ 

ECD (p<.05)

Pre → Post  $2.2 \rightarrow 3.5$ 

Statistical Analysis: Carrie Kanzinger, MBA, PhD Student, used with permission.

# Program Results

42 Graduates (Cohorts 2016-2017, 2018-2019)



- 40 Registered Nurses (RN), 1 Social Worker (SW), 1 Respiratory Therapist (RT)
- 35 Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Projects Completed



- 1 Policy Change
- 3 Unit-Based Practice Changes
- 4 Accepted for Conference Presentation

92% of Eligible Fellows Achieved Specialty Certification



- 15 HPCC Hospice Palliative Care RNs
  - 22 ANCC Pain Management RNs
  - 1 HPCC Hospice/Palliative Care SW
- 16 Fellows in the 2019-2020 Cohort



CEN, FAEN

 14 RNs and 1 Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner

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