

Death, Dying and Palliative Care

The goals for this undergraduate medical education vertical theme in palliative care are that students will:

1. be able to describe and begin to apply principles of end of life care and symptom management
2. recognize the role of interprofessional teams in the care of terminal patients
3. identify ethical or legal challenges in the care of end of life / palliative care patients.
4. begin to develop skills towards communicating with patients and families around dying and bereavement

1. The normality of death in the human life cycle

[Year One/Term One: *Medicine and Society I-human life course*]

2. The human response to death

[Year 1/Term 1: *Medicine and Society I*, Year 2/Term 2: *Foundations: Reproductive Medicine*]

3. Communication around end of life events

(such as breaking bad news, discussing advance directives, others)

[Years 1-2: *Clinical Skills*, Year 3: *Selected Topics in Medicine, Core Rotations in Clerkship*]

4. Collaborative Inter-professional End of Life Care:

[Year 2/Term 2: *Clinical Integration IV: palliative care iPBL*]

7. Experiential Learning

Core Rotations in Clerkship: (Year Three)
Palliative care: (OB/GYN, Family Medicine)
Pain management: (Anesthesia/ER)

Clinical Electives Course: (Year Four)

Palliative Care Elective

Pediatric Palliative Care Elective [NEW]

6. Medical Care of the Terminally Ill

General principles of palliative care and system specific considerations are integrated into curricular sessions throughout the three years and include:

Year One:

Palliative care - End of life (*Medicine and Society I*)

Care of the end stage pulmonary patient (*Foundations: Respiratory*)

Care of the end stage cardiac patient (*Foundations: CV*)

Care of the end stage cirrhotic patient (*Foundations: GI*)

Year Two

Perinatal loss and palliative care (*Foundations: Reproductive Med*)

Pain management (*Foundations: Neurosciences*)

Mobility & bowel care (*Clinical Skills IV: Geriatrics Skills Day*)

Year Three

The dying patient – palliative care (*Selected Topics in Medicine*)

Pain Management (*Selected Topics in Medicine*)

5. Medical Ethics: including end of life care decisions

[Years 1-2: *Clinical Integration courses Medicine and Society III including law and ethics around MAID*

Foundations of Clinical Medicine, Year 3: *Selected Topics in Medicine*]

U of S Library On-line e-book resource

Care at the close of life: evidence and experience
Ed: Stephen J. McPhee JAMAevidence