

POPLPRAC 723

Advanced Symptom Management in Palliative Care

15 Points
Semester 2, 2014

Course Prescription

Advanced concepts in the assessment and management of challenging symptoms and situations, encountered within the palliative care approach to malignant and non-malignant advanced diseases.

Goals of the Course

The course aims;

- to increase the student's knowledge of complex symptom management and palliative care issues
- to facilitate integration of this learning into clinical practise
- to provide the student with greater knowledge-based confidence that supports patient care and advocacy
- to enable the student to critically evaluate the skills applied to symptom assessment and management in the clinical setting, to critique them and recommend improvement
- to develop a deeper assessment and management approach to particularly challenging symptoms in advanced disease
- to enable and support an ongoing appetite for life-long learning

Learning Outcomes

The course will enable the student to:

- describe and work within the paradigm of holistic management and the multiple issues that characterise palliative care both in malignant and non-malignant disease
- communicate with other team members and other health professionals the issues that require further exploration and management.
- explore through discussion with the team, management strategies and opportunities to improve symptom management
- consider and apply the pharmacological and the non-pharmacological options to manage symptoms, including those less frequently encountered or more challenging to manage successfully.
- integrate the principles of palliative symptom management into care of patients with non-malignant and advanced chronic illness
- actively maximise team members' skills in assessment and care of patients/families through case-based management and to demonstrate with evidence how this could contribute to optimum palliative care
- critically analyse, identify and address gaps in patient care and to seek and utilise available resources (through case reviews).
- develop a role in palliative care leadership and education as part of an advanced practitioner's role

Learning and Teaching

This course is delivered in distance mode and includes one 2-day weekend seminar in Auckland. Course details and information including access to digitised readings and assessments are online and will be made accessible through Cecil at the beginning of the semester. Broadband internet connection is recommended for easy access to online resources and assessments. Flash Player can be downloaded free to enable access to the programme.

Teaching Staff

Professional Teaching Fellow:
Academic Course Co-ordinator and Lecturer:

Dr Moira Camilleri
Yvonne Bray

The team are grateful to the specialist speakers who contribute their time and knowledge to this course.



POPLPRAC 723 Advanced Symptom Management in Palliative Care

Programme Administrator

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Campus Teaching Dates in 2014

Seminar days are held at Tāmaki Campus on **two Thursdays & Fridays, 9am-5pm August 7-8, October 30-31**. Please see your timetable on SSO or Building 730 Reception noticeboard on the day for the room details.

Learning Resources

It is recommended that you have access to the following texts:

Hanks, G., Doyle, D., Calman, C. and Cherny, N. (eds)(2003)Oxford Textbook of Palliative Medicine 3rd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Twycross, R., Wilcock, A., Charlesworth, S., Dickman, A. (2002). Palliative Care Formulary. 4th Edition. Abingdon: Radcliffe Medical Press.

Twycross, R. G., Wilcock, A., & Stark Toller, C. (2009). *Symptom management in advanced cancer* (4th ed.). Nottingham, England: Palliativedrugs.com.

MacLeod, R., Vella-Brincat, J. & MacLeod, A. D. (2006). The Palliative Care Handbook, 3rd Edition. New Zealand: Caxton Press.

Access to other digitised course readings will be available on the library website.

Assessment

Assessment consists of

- quiz based on previous work covered in POPLPRAC 722 (10%),
- two written assignments (25% each),
- case presentation to fellow students and tutors based on the second assignment (20%),
- two short cases (vignettes) which carry 20% of the final mark.

'Turnitin' is a recommended tool for students to screen assignments (applicable to assignments 1 and 2) for plagiarism.

Programme and Course Advice

This course is multidisciplinary in approach and suitable for students eligible for postgraduate study. Health professionals who have fulfilled the admission requirements for postgraduate study are able to enrol in this course. Doctors enrolling in the Medical Science schedule are required to have a current registration with the Medical Council of New Zealand or alternatively can enrol in the Health Science schedule.

Postgraduate nursing students who wish to enrol in a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science are advised to contact the School of Nursing for guidance on a recommended pathway and core courses that need to be completed.

POPLPRAC 722, Symptom Management in Palliative Care is the precursor to this course.

Other courses that may be of interest are POPLHLTH 746 Ethics, Culture and Societal Approaches to Death, POPLPRAC 720 Psychosocial Issues in Palliative Care, and POPLPRAC 701 Therapeutic Communication.