



Celebrating 20 Years of Providing Palliative Care Education

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Personal Perspective



1977

Nurses Play a Key Role in Palliative Care

- No other healthcare professional spends more time at the bedside than the nurse, supporting
 - Physical needs
 - Psychological needs
 - Social needs
 - Spiritual needs
- Nurses collaborate as members of interdisciplinary teams



History of ELNEC

- Began in 2000
- First Grant: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- First Course: January 2001, Pasadena, CA
- Partnership between the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and City of Hope



American Association
of Colleges of Nursing

ELNEC Core Modules Addressing Palliative Care

- Mod 1: Palliative Nursing Care
- Mod 2: Pain Management
- Mod 3: Symptom Management
- Mod 4: Ethical Issues*
- Mod 5: Cultural Considerations*
- Mod 6: Communication
- Mod 7: Loss, Grief, Bereavement
- Mod 8: Final Hours

*Modules embedded in other 6 modules

TODAY

- Over 24,500 ELNEC educated Trainers
- These ELNEC trainers have returned to their institutions/facilities and educated over 735,000 others
- Presented in every US state and DC
- Taught in 100 countries as of 2019
- Translated into 11 languages

ELNEC Curricula

● Currently 8 ELNEC Curricula

In person courses and Online:

- ELNEC-Core
- ELNEC-Geriatric (includes unlicensed staff)
- ELNEC-Pediatric (includes Neonatal Care)
- ELNEC-Critical Care
- ELNEC-APRN
- ELNEC-Oncology APRN (NCI, R25 Grant)
- ELNEC-Communication (online in progress)

Online only:

- ELNEC-Undergraduate (online)
- ELNEC-Graduate (online)



ELNEC International



- Currently, ELNEC trainers and faculty have traveled to seven of the eight continents, representing 100 countries. These trainers have provided ELNEC educational courses to over 10,000 other health care providers, while others have gone as consultants to work with educators, health administrators, and community leaders to improve care of the dying in their countries.
- The ELNEC Curriculum has been translated into 11 languages for international dissemination:
 - Albanian -Korean -German -Romanian -Hindi
 - Japanese -Russian -Spanish -Chinese -Armenian -Czech

Evaluating the Outcomes of ELNEC



41 outcome papers

Examples of ELNEC Projects Impacting the work force

ELNEC Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

- APRN's are key palliative team members with varied roles in leadership, clinical practice, education and research.
- Additional training for these courses are provided in palliative care- related topics such as budgets, quality improvement, education, and leadership.
- Attendees have the option of attending one of two tracks: adult or pediatric focused care.
- To date there have been 14 APRN courses, training over 945 APRNs. [845 Adult APRNs and 100 Pediatric APRNs]



Expanding the Palliative Care Workforce through Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Oncology

- Nurses with advanced practice education have opportunities to assist in transforming the nation's health care system especially in oncology.
- Funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI 2017-2022), there will be 5 courses available to provide oncology APRNs tools and resources to prepare them to be generalists in palliative care in order to provide excellent, compassionate, evidenced-based oncology palliative care .
- The first three courses were held in April 2018 in Pasadena, CA; November 2018 in Herndon, VA; and in September 2019 in Atlanta, GA. There have been 286 Oncology APRNs who have participated in these three courses representing 44 US States and the District of Columbia (DC).

What Contents Are Within Each Module?

- Each of the Eight (8) Modules Contain:
 - Overview
 - Objectives
 - Participant Outline
 - Powerpoint Slides (talking points for each slide)
 - Case Studies
 - Reference List
 - Supplemental Teaching Materials
- “CE Ready” to teach others
- Courses include didactic and lab sessions

Key Themes Throughout All Curricula

- Family as the Unit of Care
- Vital Role of the Nurse as Advocate
- Importance of Honoring Culture



- Attention to Special Populations



- End-of-Life Issues Impact All Systems of Care



- Financial Issues Influence End-of-Life Care



- Palliative Care is Needed in all Serious Illnesses and Sudden Death



Palliative Care is Needed in all Serious Illnesses and Sudden Death



Evaluating Educational Efforts

- Number of courses
- Number trained
- Individualized goals
- Systems change (e.g., Family conferencing, increased AD use, changed symptom management, new policies, increased PC/hospice use)

Lesson Learned

Challenges:

- Limited funding for educational projects
- Limited funding for nurses to attend courses
- Nursing extends across all clinical areas thus the challenge of multiple curricula

Strengths:

- Collaboration with AACN
- Collaboration with other organizations
- Train the Trainer format
- Value of both in person and online learning

If someone you love is seriously ill you would want their symptoms well managed, support for your family, good communication, spiritual and psychosocial support and a death that respects and honors their life.

That won't happen unless clinicians are trained to provide that care.