

In the Name of God

Islamic Republic of Iran Ministry of Health and Medical Education Deputy for Education

Palliative Medicine Degree: Fellowship

Introduction

Palliative medicine students should know the symptoms of hard-to-treat diseases, be able to treat them appropriately, be completely familiar with psychological issues of these patients, and be able to assess and control them. Furthermore, palliative care specialists should be able to establish a close relationship with patients and their relatives, and train patients' relatives properly. The current curriculum includes competencies required in this field. Accordingly, graduates should play consultative, informative, educative (the patients and their families), therapeutic, interventional, and managerial (in the health system) roles. This document has been prepared based on credible scientific sources, opinions of specialists, experts, and officials in the health system, and includes the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to fulfill these responsibilities.

Definition and Duration of the Training Program:

Palliative medicine is a branch of medical science and is about palliative treatment of patients suffering from life-threatening complications and conditions in advanced and progressive diseases. In palliative medicine, the care focuses on enhancing the quality of life to the maximum possible extent, by controlling the disturbing signs and symptoms in a specialized manner and through spiritual, psychological and social supports.

This course lasts 15 months, and can be extended up to 18 months.

Aims:

1-To train specialist, competent and committed to apply their knowledge to enhance the support and care system for patients suffering from progressive and hard-to-treat diseases as well as for their relatives, in collaboration with other medical groups (specialists in other related disciplines, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers, etc.).

2- To achieve conditions in which, patients suffering from progressive and hard-to-treat diseases and their relatives benefit from the best services possible and spiritual supports to relieve their physical and mental sufferings.

Admission Requirements:

- Board of Internal Medicine
- Board of Anesthesiology
- Board of Radiotherapy
- Board of General Surgery

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

General Competencies*

Specific Competencies and Skills

At the end of the program learners will be competent in the following skills:

Procedural Skills (diagnostic - therapeutic measures):

- Pleural aspiration
- Pericardial aspiration
- Ascitic fluid paracentesis
- Simple nerve blocks

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques*

Student Assessment (Methods and Types)

A) Assessment Methods:

- 1- Logbook (will be completed by fellows – will be approved by professors)
- 2- Checklist (by professors)
- 3- The written final exam
- 4- Clinical exam - during the course with an assessment by professors using the checklist
- 5- Writing a research paper, or implementing a relevant research project

B) Periods of Assessment:

- a) Continuously during the course
- b) A written exam at the end of the course
- c) Delivering the research paper or the report of the research project

Ethical Considerations*

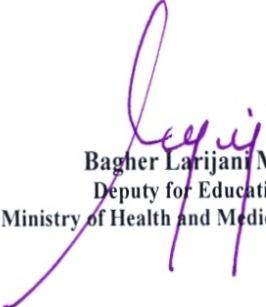
*Note: The related document(s) can be found at <http://hcmep.behdasht.gov.ir/>.

Overview of the Training Program Structure:

1 st 4 months		
Ward or Classroom	Content -Procedure	Duration
Class	Ethicolegal Aspects of Hard –to – Treat ,Progressive Diseases	2 Weeks
Workshop	Communication Skills	1 week
Workshop	Statistics and Research Methods	2 week
Classroom	Introduction to Prevalent Cancers	1 week
Classroom	Introduction to different specialties and approach to them (Oncology- Radiotherapy –surgical Oncology –Rehabilitation-Anesthesiology ..) and getting help from them	2 weeks
Classroom	Psychological and psychotherapeutic aspects of these patients	2 weeks
Work Shop	Palliative medicine Methods for these patients management	2 weeks
Classroom -workshops	Pain control /evaluation and usage of pain control methods ..	4 weeks
2 nd 4 months		
Classroom -workshops	Introduction to evaluation and management of Bothersome Symptoms in these patients	6weeks
Work Shop	Introduction to Psychosocial and spiritual aspects of these diseases and the supporting role and care of the family. Introduction to health system facilities	2 weeks
Classroom	Introduction to Complementary medicine Principles	2weeks
Classroom -workshops	Optional Courses	2 weeks
Classroom -workshops	Introduction to Traditional Medicine role in these conditions	4 weeks
3 rd 4 months		
Skill Lab	Introduction to Diagnostic Methods-Noninvasive therapeutic Approaches	4 weeks
Classroom -workshops	Special aspects of Palliative Medicine (Geriatrics ,Pediatrics ,Burns,Rheumatology....)	6 weeks
Work Shop-Classroom	Palliative Medicine in HIV-AIDS	1 week
Work Shop	Health Management Aspects in Palliative Medicine	1 week
Classroom-Skill Lab	Invasive Methods in Palliative Medicine	2 weeks
Classroom-Skill Lab	Others	2 weeks

Seyed-Hassan Emami-Razavi MD
Secretariat of the Council for
Graduate Medical Education

Seyed Mansour Razavi MD
Secretary of the Supreme Council for
Medical Sciences Planning


Bagher Larijani MD
Deputy for Education
Ministry of Health and Medical Education

