

Hospital Medicine

In the busy day of a hospitalist, complex patients can lead to a backlog in daily rounds, delayed discharges, and inadequate time to communicate with patients and families. Expertise in symptom management and conversations about care priorities allow hospitalists to efficiently address common gaps in care for people living with serious illness, and to identify patients that would benefit from a palliative care referral.

Visit the Society for Hospital Medicine's [Resource Room for Palliative Care](#) to access additional resources for hospitalists.

Identify Gaps in Care for Seriously Ill Patients

[Introduction to Palliative Care for Health Professionals](#)

An introduction to palliative care, how it is delivered, its impact on quality of life, and the growing population of patients who need it.

[Hospital Medicine Strategies: Caring for the Seriously Ill](#)

The value of skills training for hospitalists.

[Improving Quality of Care for Seriously Ill Patients: Opportunities for Hospitalists](#)

Journal of Hospital Medicine, December 2017.

[Update in Hospital Palliative Care: Symptom Management, Communication, Caregiver Outcomes, and Moral Distress](#)

Journal of Hospital Medicine, June 2018.

[A Model to Improve Hospital-Based Palliative Care: The Palliative Care Redistribution Integrated System Model \(PRISM\)](#)

Journal of Hospital Medicine, December 2018.

[CAPC Palliative Care Referral Criteria](#)

Checklist of triggers for referral to a specialty palliative care team.

Improve Communication

Discussing Serious News

Learn best practices for having patient-centered conversations about a serious illness diagnosis.

Discussing Prognosis With Patients and Caregivers

Learn how to effectively discuss prognosis with patients and their caregivers.

Clarifying Patient Goals of Care

Learn best practices for building trust, eliciting patient values, and having patient-centered conversations about goals of care.

Leading a Patient and Caregiver Meeting

Learn to effectively lead meetings that help patients and caregivers become aligned around the patient's goals.

Care Planning

Learn techniques to help patients and their caregivers plan for the future, both during the early stages of a serious illness and as a disease progresses.

Manage Pain and Other Symptoms

Course 1: Comprehensive Pain Assessment

Conducting a comprehensive pain assessment to guide safe and effective treatment.

Course 4: Assessing Risk for Opioid Substance Use Disorder

Integrating routine risk assessment for substance use disorder when considering or using opioid therapy.

Course 5: Opioid Trials: Determining Design, Efficacy, and Safety

Designing a safe and effective opioid trial for the patient with serious illness.

Course 8: Monitoring for Opioid Efficacy, Side Effects, and Substance Use Disorder

Ongoing evaluation of opioid benefits, risks, and side effects for the patient with serious illness.

Course 14: Pain Management: Putting it All Together

Safe opioid prescribing for patients with serious illness, using the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Guidelines for the Chronic Use of Opioid Analgesics.

Dyspnea

After completing this course, learners will have the tools they need to manage dyspnea, including the physical causes of shortness of breath and the emotional impact on the patient.

Deliver Quality Care Transitions

Supporting the Family Caregiver: The Burden of Serious Illness

Assessing and supporting caregivers of people with serious illness.

Reducing Risks for Older Adults

This course provides context and best practices for identifying older adults at risk for poor outcomes, including falls, delirium, and caregiving challenges.

Hospital Discharge Checklist

Practical tool for assuring safe discharge for patients living with serious illness.

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