

Internet Resources on Hospice and Palliative Care

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Included below are websites for professionals involved in caring for individuals with serious illness and/or who are facing end of life. The focus is on websites that provide educational content for health care providers and are not necessarily geared for patients and caregivers, though several of the sites do provide resources for patients and families as well.

American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM)

<http://www.aahpm.org/>

AAHPM is a professional organization primarily geared for physicians, but also for nurses and other healthcare professionals involved in the care of patients with serious illness. The site features a Job Mart, a Legislative Action Center and a section for Special Interest Groups such as Early Career Professionals, Heart Failure, HIV, Research, and many more.

Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) Campus Online

<http://campus.capc.org/>

This educational portal is for physicians, nurses, hospital administrators, chaplains and other professionals who have an interest in creating a palliative care program, or are already part of a program and want to improve/expand it. The portal consists of series of e-learning courses which participants take at their own convenience. Each course costs \$35.00 per person, takes approximately 2 hours and includes CME/CE credits. These courses are operationally oriented and relate primarily to the administrative and business aspects of creating and running a program. For more clinically oriented training, CAPC offers links to their own and outside Training and Education resources (<http://www.capc.org/palliative-care-professional-development/Training/>) as well as links to their seminars, audio conferences, publications, presentations, poster sessions, and videos.

Education in Palliative and End-of-life Care (EPEC)

<http://www.epec.net/>

Originally started in 1997 as a train-the-trainer program, EPEC was developed to impart not only the core content of palliative care but also educational techniques to effectively impart that content to adult learners. The organization holds twice yearly conferences as well as an annual professional development workshop to train master facilitators for those conferences. In addition to the core curriculum, EPEC has partnered with specialty organizations to develop courses that now include EPEC-Oncology, EPEC-Emergency Medicine, EPEC-Geriatrics/Long-term Care, EPEC for Veterans, and EPEC-Pediatrics. Programs are also being developed to address end-of-life issues in specific populations. Live conferences are offered as well as on-line courses in the core EPEC Curriculum, the EPEC-Oncology Curriculum, and the EPEC for Veterans Curriculum. The curriculum is multimedia-combining didactic and interactive sessions, video presentations, and practical exercises in "communication, ethical decision making, psychosocial considerations and symptom management."

End of Life Online Curriculum

<http://endoflife.stanford.edu/>

This curriculum was created and is maintained by the VA Palliative Care Network (PCN), a collaboration between the US Veterans Administration and SUMMIT, Stanford University Medical School and is funded by the National Library of Medicine. The curriculum

is part of a larger palliative care portal. The modules included in this curriculum include the following: Overview; Opioid Conversion; Palliative Sedation; Dyspnea; Prognostication; Communication; Home Hospice; Transition to Death; and Bereavement. Each module consists of Learning Objectives, a Pre-Test, summaries of key points and cases with questions for self-testing. Lists of outside resources and references are also provided in this free resource.

End of Life/Palliative Education Resource Center (EPERC)

<http://www.eperc.mcw.edu/EPERC>

EPERC, which is hosted by the Medical College of Wisconsin includes the following features:

Fast Facts and Concepts: Peer reviewed concise summaries of palliative care issues. These brief monographs are posted twice monthly and also appear in the *Journal of Palliative Medicine*. They are free for educational use and can be printed and distributed for non-commercial purposes with appropriate attribution. Over 250 Fast Facts documents have been published since the series began in 2000. Topics ranging from Taking a Spiritual History to Malignant Wounds to Pseudoaddiction are included and older monographs have been revised and reissued as 2nd editions.

Educational Materials: Includes cases, modules, experiences, pocket cards and manuals, and links to related outside medical educational resources.

News/Training/Links: Links to news regarding resources, workshops, conferences, board-certification and technology applications.

Articles: Links to abstracts and/or full text of articles on end-of-life care with a focus on articles related to professional education.

GeriPal: A Geriatrics and Palliative Care Blog

<http://www.geripal.org/>

"GeriPal is a forum for discourse, recent news and research, and freethinking commentary." GeriPal's objectives are modest and include, in addition to providing a virtual community in which geriatrics and palliative care providers in all professions can exchange ideas and practices, nothing short of changing the world. The site contains blogs, links to related blogs, tweets, links to Geriatrics and Palliative Care resources, and an ePrognosis index repository that allows clinicians to calculate patients' prognoses in an evidence-based fashion.

LitLinks: Palliative Care/End of Life Issues

<http://www.pogoe.org/litlinks/aging-related/palliative>

This page is one of many in LitLinks: Exploring the Literature, a feature of the Portal of Geriatric Online Education (POGOe-<http://www.pogoe.org>). It provides links to the PubMed citations and abstracts of selected palliative medicine articles addressing: Ethics, Assessment and Management, Practice Guidelines, Health Services and Models of Care, and Interdisciplinary Issues. Additionally it provides pre-formulated, automatically renewing searches covering every aspect of palliative care from economics, to psychology, to statistics and numerical data.