

Advantages of Starting a Hospice and Palliative Care Fellowship



THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES TO STARTING A HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE FELLOWSHIP AT YOUR ACADEMIC INSTITUTION.

IF YOU HAVE AN EXISTING PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM AT YOUR INSTITUTION, NOW MAY BE THE TIME TO CONSIDER TAKING THE STEPS TO STARTING A HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE FELLOWSHIP.

THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT PAPERWORK AND TEACHING, AND A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR GME OFFICE. BUT THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES FOR YOUR PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM AND YOUR INSTITUTION!

Advantages of a Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship



- **Regular MD/DO presence with complete focus on Hospice and Palliative Care**
- **Data interpretation, research, publication by highly skilled, motivated and educated professionals**

Advantages of Fellowship, continued



- **Cutting-edge, state-of-the-art**
- **Added layer of research, educational, clinical support**
- **Elevates prestige, quality and credibility of your Palliative Care program and institution**
- **Liaison to and education of housestaff on other services**

Advantages of Fellowship, continued



- Increased visibility of your Palliative Care in your institution, including the Emergency Department.
- Increased visibility of your institution at the national level.
- Many opportunities for fellows/fellowship director involvement in American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM).

Advantages of Fellowship, continued



- **Liaison to Hospice organization.**
- **Expansion of services to outpatient Pain and Symptom Management clinic.**
- **Compels revisiting of Mission and Goals statement of the institution's Palliative Care program.**

Advantages of Fellowship, continued



- Long-term goal of creating tomorrow's cadre of palliative care specialists. In terms of self-interest this may help to retain young professionals at your institution.
- Attract additional faculty to PC service
- Long-term *social goal* and *social good* of helping to build up the profession.

Minimum Requirements for a HPM Fellowship Program



- **Must be associated with a primary sponsoring institution with a Graduate Medical Education program**
- **Must have a program director certified in HPM who spends adequate number (over ~ 20) of hours/ week on education and administration of the program.**
- **Must have a full interdisciplinary team: chaplain, social work, nursing.**
- **Must have access to inpatient and home hospice program, pediatrics and long term care.**

Getting Started:



- **Talk with others who have successfully developed fellowship training programs.**
- **Revisit the goals and mission of your program; are they compatible with the training and education of young physicians?**

Getting Started:



- Discuss with your team; do you have the manpower, access to programs (home hospice, long term care, pediatrics) to provide education, training and administration ?
- If you only have one MD/DO on the team, it may be challenging to provide all that is necessary for a successful fellowship training program.

Minimum Requirements for a HPM Fellowship Program



For details:

- http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/downloads/RRC_progReq/540_hospice_and_palliative_medicine_02122008.pdf
- <http://www.aahpm.org/fellowship/default/development.html>