

Foundational Skills for Pediatric Clinicians

This Learning Pathway contains a comprehensive set of training and tools to help pediatric clinicians address the unique needs of patients and families living with serious illness. Clinical topics include assessing the needs and concerns of pediatric patients and families; strengthening the care team, patient, and family relationship and understanding care goals; managing pain and symptoms; and helping patients and families to avoid crises and plan for the future.

CAPC would like to acknowledge the National Pediatric Palliative Care Task Force and the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California for identifying many of the resources contained in this pathway.

Essential Resources for Pediatric Palliative Care Delivery

Pediatric Palliative Care Delivery

Toolkit containing guidance on program design and program operations for the pediatric palliative care program.

Pediatric Palliative Care Referral Criteria

General palliative care referral criteria for children with serious illness, and for specific diseases including cancer and pulmonary, genetic, neurologic, metabolic, and other diagnoses.

Pediatric Palliative Care Webinar Series

Features a series of topical webinars by field leaders and experts, hosted by the Illinois, Pennsylvania, and California state coalitions.

Association for Children with Life-Threatening or Terminal Conditions and Their Families (ACT) Professional Resources

Together for Short Lives provides a resource library on a range of children's palliative care issues including safe use of medications, basic symptom control, and communication.

International Children's Palliative Care Network Resources

Short courses on children's palliative care, including guidelines for treating pain and other symptoms, end-of-life care, and grief and bereavement.

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Pediatric Curriculum

ELNEC's curriculum teaches perinatal and neonatal palliative care skills to nurses and health care professionals in the acute setting.

Strengthen the Care Team, Patient, and Family Relationship and Understand Care Goals

Pediatric Starter Kit: Having the Conversation with Your Seriously Ill Child

IHI Conversation Starter Kit specifically designed to help parents of seriously ill children who want guidance about "having the conversation" with their children.

Centering What Matters: Supporting Pediatric Patients and Families in Complex Medical Decision-Making

This Interprofessional Grand Rounds session will explore how interprofessional teams can help children and families clarify what matters most and align care with their goals and lived experiences.

Courageous Parents Network – Introduction to Pediatric Palliative Care

Video series discussing key issues in pediatric palliative care, including helping parents and families understand the pediatric disease trajectory, the use of medical technology, and parental decision-making.

Courageous Parents Network – Teaching Modules

Collection of teaching modules that use patient and family voices to walk through difficult topics in palliative care.

Pediatric My Wishes

Booklet written in everyday language that helps children express how they want to be cared for if they have a serious illness.

Voicing My Choices

Based on the Five Wishes advance directive, Voicing My Choices provides a guide for this discussion and was developed specifically for young adults with feedback and guidance from young people living with a serious illness.

VitalTalk - Quick Guides

One-page guides with actionable tips for conversations with patients with serious illness. Free to download, print and share with others.

Pediatric Palliative Care in the Multicultural Context: Findings From a Workshop Conference

This study, published in Journal of Pain and Symptom Management (2019), reports findings from a multidisciplinary workshop on cultural differences in pediatric palliative care, offering communication strategies, training recommendations, and research priorities to reduce conflict and promote culturally sensitive care.

Manage Pain and Symptoms

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Pediatric Pain and Symptom Management Guidelines

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Boston Children's Hospital Pediatric Palliative Care Approach to Pain & Symptom Management (Blue Book) is a pocket-guide for prescribers on symptom management in children, a tool for identifying areas for self-study, and an education resource for pediatric healthcare professionals.

A Practical Guide to Acute Pain Management in Children

This review from the Journal of Anesthesia, March 2020, provides a practical guide to improving acute pain management in hospitalized children through effective treatments, awareness, and clinician support.

Course 1: Pain and its Impact on Our Patients

Learn to define and characterize pain, recognize the prevalence of pain, understand disparities in pain management based on race, ethnicity, and gender.

Course 2: How to Perform a Comprehensive Pain Assessment

Learn the components of a comprehensive pain assessment and its importance in safe and effective pain management.

Fast Fact #117 - Pediatric Pain Assessment Scales

List of age-appropriate pain scales for neonates and young children.

Pediatric Pain Treatment and Opioid Prescribing

These videos are designed for medical students on their core pediatrics rotation and include topics from the newborn nursery, inpatient, and outpatient domains.

Prevent Crises and Plan Ahead

Pediatric Palliative Care Toolkits

The Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition offers resources for families and caregivers on the topics of sibling support, creative expression, care planning, and caring conversations.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Online Curriculum: Resilience in the Face of Grief and Loss

A curriculum to help pediatric clinicians reflect on grief and loss, communicate with children and their families, and manage emotions after challenging patient care experiences.

National Alliance for Children's Grief

Educational programming and critical resources to facilitate the mental, emotional, and physical health of grieving children and their families.

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