

Module 11: Palliative Care

Facilitator Notes

This module takes 3 hours to deliver online. In this module students learn that palliative care is specialized medical and nursing that cares for people with serious illness and those at the end of life. They learn that palliative care involves a specialized team of doctors, nurses and other health professionals who work together with the client and their family to provide additional supports and to maintain holistic care.

Student Guide/Materials

Ferrell, B.R. and Paice, J.A. (2019). *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Nursing (Oxford Textbooks in Palliative Medicine)*. 5th Ed. Oxford University Press. [Oxford, UK](#)

Skill Assessment

In this module students will be assessed for the following skills:

- Communicate with empathy and compassion
- Conserve patient and family dignity by facilitating expressions of needs and feelings of hope, joy, fear
- Build trust with family and client to facilitate better care planning
- Demonstrate knowledge of grief and bereavement
- Demonstrate cross-cultural perspective
- Holistic and family-centred nursing care for end of life
- Apply ethical knowledge

Learning Activity

Working with your partner, use flashcards to identify good and bad health, four fears of end-of-life care and difference between hospice and palliative care.

Clinical Scenario 1

Eight weeks ago, 70-year-old Lucy was diagnosed with Stage 4 abdominal cancer that has now spread throughout her body. Lucy was brought to the emergency room with nausea.

You have two (2) minutes to read the scenario. You will have seven (7) minutes to:

- Obtain a brief, focused and relevant history
- Address client concern
- Conduct a physical assessment as needed

NOTE: As they proceed with the examination, the candidates must explain to the examiner what they are doing and describe any findings

At the seven (7) minute mark, you will have four (4) minutes to answer the examiner's questions related to the scenario.

Candidates will have eleven (11) minutes to complete the station

Clinical Scenario 2

70-year-old Lucy is in hospice care at a long-term care facility and is rapidly deteriorating due to metastasized colon cancer. Lucy is requesting pain medication. The goals of care are designation C2. You are the nurse assigned to care for Lucy.

You have two (2) minutes to read the scenario. You will have seven (7) minutes to:

- Obtain a brief, focused and relevant history
- Address client concern
- Conduct a physical assessment as needed

NOTE: As they proceed with the examination, the candidates must explain to the examiner what they are doing and describe any findings

At the seven (7) minute mark, you will have four (4) minutes to answer the examiner's questions related to the scenario.

Candidates will have eleven (11) minutes to complete the station

Clinical Scenario 3

16-year-old Julia was pronounced "brain-dead" after a car accident. A decision has been made to take Julia off life support tomorrow. The parents are in the hospital room and want to talk to a nurse. You are assigned to speak with them.

You have two (2) minutes to read the scenario. You will have seven (7) minutes to:

- Obtain a brief, focused and relevant history
- Address client concern
- Conduct a physical assessment as needed

NOTE: As they proceed with the examination, the candidates must explain to the examiner what they are doing and describe any findings

At the seven (7) minute mark, you will have four (4) minutes to answer the examiner's questions related to the scenario.

Candidates will have eleven (11) minutes to complete the station