Y34 Hospice and Palliative Care

Course ID: MED 797AC/997AC
Discipline: Medicine
Prerequisites: 8 or more weeks of core clerkships
Available Sites: Midland
Duration: 4 weeks

Description

This is a 4-week introductory, structured clinical experience involving direct patient care activities under appropriate faculty supervision. The broad goals of the rotation are to develop the student’s decision-making, cognitive skills and application of medical knowledge in a clinical setting with a particular focus on the care of patients with advanced, progressive and incurable disease. Aimed at improving the quality of life of patients and their families through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification, assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual. This rotation may take place in a variety of clinical settings including inpatient, outpatient and home care settings.

Key Objectives

- Develop knowledge of and proficiency in evaluation of patients at the end of life and patients with specific symptom palliation needs.
- Be able to perform a complete history and physical examination.
- Develop a basic treatment plan for patients with common symptoms associated with life limiting illness.
- Demonstrate knowledge of hospice and the eligibility and appropriateness of hospice referral.
- Acquire basic knowledge of the following symptoms and their management
  - Pain, including pharmacologic, complementary and anesthetic measures to manage pain.
  - Dyspnea
  - Constipation and diarrhea
  - Nausea and vomiting
  - Anorexia and weight loss
  - Delirium and agitation
  - Anxiety and depression
- Utilize resources to assist in making timely and appropriate diagnostic and management decisions during palliative care consultations.
- Discuss outcomes of patient management plans with the faculty physician.
- Identify areas for self-improvement.
- Develop aptitude, sensitivity and comfort discussing patient care issues related to advanced disease, life limiting illness and end of life care with patients, family and staff.
- Demonstrate respect for cultural differences in response to severe illness and death.
- Demonstrate respect for spiritual values held by patients and their families.
- Understand the value of and how to conduct a family meeting for discussion of goals of care.
- Demonstrate respect for patients, families and staff.
- Maintain a professional appearance and demeanor.
- Demonstrate a willingness for learning and self-improvement.
• Be accountable and responsible to the team by arriving on time, completing assignments and being a team member
• Access appropriate interdisciplinary consults for patient care
• Demonstrate proficiency at operating within the context of an interdisciplinary group managing patients.
• Explain the projected need for hospice services and end of life care for the coming decades.

Assessment Method
College of Medicine standard elective assessment will be completed by supervising faculty at conclusion of elective clerkship.

Scheduling Information
Interested students should contact CMU College of Medicine Department of Distributed Clinical Education at CMEDDCE@cmich.edu.