

Evaluating Learning in Palliative Care Nursing Education: Tools and Strategies

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Support for Webinars

Dr. Betty Ferrell, Professor City of Hope

Principal Investigator ELNEC Project

- Three-year grant to advance work strengthening the nursing workforce in caring for patients and families with serious illness (2021-2023)
- Develop a regional model of excellence – targeting 4-state region (WA, UT, ID, OR)
- Supports efforts to reach schools with high proportion of diverse students/faculty within underserved communities

- Describe various palliative care measures available for evaluating undergraduate nursing student learning
- Workgroup Session to consider ways programs can evaluate learning



Evaluating Student Learning

Evaluating palliative care educational effectiveness 'should take into account the singularly broad range of knowledge, skills, and attitudes (KSA) that must coalesce for a student to develop competence in an area' (Meekin, et al., 2000)

Competency-based education is outcome-driven; linked to explicitly defined performance expectations that encourages conscious connections between KNOWLEDGE and ACTION (AACN, 2021, p. 4)

MEASURES

Knowledge

Attitudes

Perceived
Competency

Competence/
Skills

KNOWLEDGE

Palliative Care Quiz for Nursing (PCQN)

*Ross, McDonald, McGuinness
(1996)*

- 20 item T/F measuring theoretical knowledge (symptom management, psychosocial, spiritual care and general principles of PC)
- Undergraduate students and nurses

Knowledge Assessment Tool (KAT)

*Lange, Shea, Grossman, Wallace, Ferrell
(2009)*

- 50-item measuring knowledge attainment and to aid in evaluating effectiveness of educational programs. Based on ELNEC curriculum

Undergraduate Nurse Palliative Care Knowledge Survey (UNPCKS)

*Davis & Lippe
(2020)*

- 27-item measure reflecting CARES competencies – knowledge attainment and curriculum implementation /evaluation of learning

ATTITUDES

- **Frommelt Attitudes Toward Care of the Dying FATCOD, Form B** (Frommelt, 2003)
 - Revised into 30 Likert-type items (equally worded positively and negatively statements)
 - Equally worded positive and negative statements to assess attitudes toward 'terminally ill' persons and their families
- **Collett-Lester Fear of Death Scale** (Collet-Lester, 1969; Lester, 1990)
 - 32-item scale to differentiate between the prospect of death and the process of dying and between fears about these that individuals might have for themselves and for others.
 - 4 subscales: Dying of Self; Death of Self; Dying of Other; Death of Other
- **Death Anxiety Scales**
 - Thanatophobia Scale (TS) (Merrill, Lorimor, Thornby, & Woods, 1998)
 - 7-item scale assessing healthcare professionals' attitudes
 - Concerns about Dying (CAD) (Mazor, Schwartz, & Rogers, 2004)
 - 10 descriptive statements assessing healthcare providers and students comfort level and concerns about death; includes items related to spirituality

Perceived Competency

Palliative Care Nursing Self-competence Scale (PCNSC)

Desbien & Fillion
(2011)

- 10 dimensions of care measured in 50-items. Intended for use among any nurse caring for adult patients and families experiencing life-limiting illness or at end of life (assessing educational needs or evaluate impact of educational programs)

Primary Palliative Care Perceived Competence

Lippe, Davis, Threadgill, Ricamoto
(2020)

- 17-item 5-point Likert scale aligned with CARES competencies to assess perceived competence among undergraduate nursing students

Competency (Skills)

Nursing Students Competence Instrument (NSCI)

Lin, Wu, Hsiao, Han, & Hung (2017)

- 27-item 4-point Likert scale to measure nursing students' general competencies in four dimensions: integrating care abilities, leading humanity concerns, advancing career talents, and dealing with tension

Primary Palliative Nursing Care-Competency Assessment Tool (PPNC-CAT)

Lippe & Davis (2022)

- 9 Domains with associated competency statements designed to be used in undergraduate nursing education and with entry-to-practice nurses to conduce formative and/or summative evaluation of student primary palliative nursing care behaviors in clinical and/or simulated settings; also, as student self-reflection and self-assessment



Competency-based education is outcome-driven; linked to explicitly defined performance expectations that encourages conscious connections between KNOWLEDGE and ACTION (AACN, 2021, p. 4)

IN GROUPS:

- ✓ Share how you are evaluating learning/competence in palliative care education
- ✓ If you are not currently evaluating palliative care competencies specifically, which tools and where in the curriculum might these be helpful?



Evaluating Your Student Learning

- Palliative Care Education at University of Portland
 - pallcareed@up.edu
- Knowledge: UNPCKS 2.0
- Competence: PPNC-CAT

You are here: [End-of-Life-Care \(ELNEC\)](#) 

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Questions?

Call (626) 218-2346

Email elnec@coh.org.

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) project is a national and international education initiative to improve palliative care. [Learn more.](#)

ELNEC News & Announcements

Support for Nurses During COVID-19

- [2022 National ELNEC Courses Announced](#)
- [ELNEC Project Reaches Historic Milestone with One Million Nurses and Other Providers Trained in End-of-Life Care](#)
- [ELNEC Founder Dr. Betty Ferrell Highlights the Unique Contribution of Nurses' on PBS News Hour](#)
- [Hall of Fame Champions of ELNEC Undergraduate/New Graduate & Graduate Curricula: Is Your School on the List?](#)

[ELNEC Undergraduate/New Graduate Hall of Fame](#) (Institutions that have 10 or more students enrolled from 2019-2021)

[ELNEC Graduate Hall of Fame](#) (Institutions that have 5 or more students enrolled from 2019-2021)

Upcoming National ELNEC Courses

- [ELNEC Summit](#)
Pasadena, CA | April 21-22, 2022
Courses offered: APRN Adult, APRN Pediatric, Communication, Core, Critical Care, Geriatric, and Pediatric



Featured Resource

CARES: Competencies And Recommendations for Educating Undergraduate Nursing Students Preparing Nurses to Care for the Seriously Ill and their Families

G-Cares Competencies in Primary Palliative Care for Graduate Nursing Students in Master's and DNP programs

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Welcome

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) project is a national and international education initiative to improve palliative care. [Learn more](#). This corner was created to support faculty in schools of nursing. **Visit the ELNEC Materials tab for free faculty access to ELNEC Undergraduate/New Graduate and/or ELNEC Graduate curricula. Visit the Faculty Teaching & Evaluation Tools tab for materials and websites, from our palliative care colleagues. Visit the Hall of Fame to see if your institution is featured as one of ELNEC's champion sites.**

Upcoming Webinars

- Evaluating Learning Outcomes in Palliative Care Nursing Education: Tools and Strategies - Facilitated by **Andra Davis, PhD, MN, RN**
 - **Monday, February 28th, 8:00-9:00AM PST/11:00AM-12:00PM EST** [Click to Register](#)
 - **Tuesday, March 1st, 3:00-4:00PM PST/6:00PM-7:00PM EST** [Click to Register](#)
- Teaching Innovation with Palliative Care - TBD, Facilitated by **Andra Davis, PhD, MN, RN**

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Andra Davis interviews faculty who currently use ELNEC Undergraduate and/or ELNEC Graduate. Check back often to see updated interviews.
February 2022: **Casey Shillam, PhD, RN, Dean & Professor, School of Nursing, University of Portland.** [Watch Interview](#)

[Past Faculty Spotlight Interviews](#) ▾



2022

Train-The-Trainer National Courses

Participants receive CEs,
a textbook, syllabus,
resources, and more...



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Advancing Palliative Care

SUMMIT COURSES ARE HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY.
PARTICIPANTS MUST CHOOSE ONE

Spring Summit: Pasadena, CA April 21-22

- APRN Adult
- APRN Pediatric
- Core
- Communication
- Critical Care
- Geriatric
- Pediatric

Fall Summit: Chicago Area (Oak Brook, IL) | October 20-21

- APRN Adult
- Core

AACNNURSING.ORG/ELNEC

Interprofessional Communication Curriculum (ICC) Portland, OR - August 24-26

- NCI Grant Funded: FREE registration, hotel lodging, and more
- For Teams of Oncology Nurses, Chaplains, and Social Workers

CITYOFHOPE.ORG/ICC

