



# Geriatric Palliative Care

## 2010 End-Of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Geriatric Palliative Care Curriculum

The Hospice Education Network and ELNEC are pleased to offer online subscription access to nine ELNEC modules presented by ELNEC faculty, each experts in end-of-life care. This online format allows 24/7 unlimited viewing of lectures and supplemental materials for all staff from any computer with internet access for one year. The modules are part of the nationally recognized ELNEC Geriatric Palliative Care trainings that are provided across the country by individuals who have completed the ELNEC Train-The-Trainer program.

**Several of the Geriatric Palliative Care Curriculum modules include information for the nursing assistant / aide. Presentations with an asterisk (\*) indicate that either a separate handout, video or included discussion is provided for the nursing assistant / aide.**



**Patricia Berry**  
PhD,  
APRN,  
ACHPN,  
FAAN

**Module 1: PRINCIPLES OF PALLIATIVE CARE \* - Betty Ferrell, RN, PhD, FAAN, FPCN**

The purpose of this presentation is to describe the role of the nurse in providing quality geriatric palliative care. A description of the philosophy and principles of hospice and palliative care is reviewed so this care can be integrated across all settings to effect quality care at the end of life.



**Mary Ersek**  
PhD, RN,  
FAAN

**Module 2: PAIN ASSESSMENT & MANAGEMENT \* - Carol Long, PhD, RN, FPCN**

This module reviews basic principles of pain assessment and management in the older adult with a focus on pain at the end of life.



**Betty Ferrell**  
RN, PhD,  
FAAN,  
FPCN

**Module 3: NONPAIN SYMPTOMS \* - Patricia Berry, PhD, APRN, ACHPN, FAAN**

This module builds on Module 2: Pain Management, by addressing other symptoms common in the older adult and the role of the nurse in managing these symptoms.

**Module 4: GOALS OF CARE & ETHICAL ISSUES \* - Mary Ersek, PhD, RN, FAAN**

This module discusses some of the key ethical issues and legal concerns in end-of-life/palliative care and resources to address these in practice.



**Barbara Head**  
PhD, RN,  
MSSW,  
ACHPN

**Module 5: CULTURAL & SPIRITUAL CONSIDERATIONS - Betty Ferrell, RN, PhD, FAAN, FPCN**

This module reviews dimensions of culture, which influence care of the older adult. Assessment of culture is emphasized as essential to adequate communication and in providing culturally competent care.

**Module 6: COMMUNICATION AT THE END OF LIFE - Barbara Head, PhD, RN, MSSW, ACHPN**

This module emphasizes the importance of good communication in end-of-life care. The complexities of communicating with older adult patients and families at this critical time are described along with suggestions for care.



**Carol Long**  
PhD, RN,  
FPCN

**Module 7: LOSS, GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT - Barbara Head, PhD, RN, MSSW, ACHPN**

This module addresses the challenging aspects of grief, loss and bereavement of older adult patients and families as well as the loss experiences of health care professionals.

**Module 8: ENSURING QUALITY CARE - Mary Ersek, PhD, RN, FAAN**

This module focuses on the role of the nurse in achieving quality end-of-life care by reviewing limitations in existing systems and creating change.

**Module 9: PREPARATION FOR & CARE AT TIME OF DEATH \* - Pat Berry PhD APRN ACHPN FAAN**

This module focuses on care at the actual time of death, emphasizing the preparation necessary to insure the best care at this critical event in the trajectory of illness.

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## 2010 End-Of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Geriatric Palliative Care Curriculum

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