

Elective Description:

During the Palliative Care Elective rotation at the Y-NHH (York Street Campus) the Internal Medicine Resident will focus on promoting quality of life and preventing suffering in patients with serious illness and their families and clinician providers across a broad scope of diseases by providing an extra layer of support. The experience will encompass intensive, hands on inpatient clinical care of patients on the Y-NHH Adult Palliative Medicine Consultation Service. Our team creates an opportunity for focused skill building in symptom management, interdisciplinary team function, basic and advanced aspects of serious illness communication, whole person and family focused care, and reflection on practice and self-care.

Educational Objectives:

- 1) Explain the philosophy and roles of palliative care and hospice, with appropriate patient referral.
- 2) Systematically assess pain and provide effective treatment with opioids, non-opioid analgesics, and non-pharmacologic interventions.
- 3) Identify psychosocial distress in patients and families, providing support and appropriate referral.
- 4) Assess and diagnose anxiety, depression and delirium, providing appropriate initial treatment and referral.
- 5) Explore patient and family understanding of illness, concerns, goals, and values, identifying treatment plans that respect and align with these priorities.
- 6) Identify patient and family cultural beliefs, practices and values related to serious illness and end-of-life care, integrating these into the plan of care.
- 7) Apply principles of opioid prescribing, including equianalgesic dosing and common side effects, and an understanding that appropriate use of opioids rarely leads to respiratory depression or addiction when treating cancer –related pain.
- 8) Demonstrate recognition and management of common signs and symptoms of imminent death.
- 9) Demonstrate effective approach to exploring and handling strong emotions in patients with serious illness and their families.
- 10) Demonstrate skills of personal reflection around one's own emotional reactions and practice and awareness of team distress specific to care of dying patients.
- 11) Demonstrate progressive skills and increasing responsibility in leading family meetings with patient and family-centered communication
- 12) Recognize the roles of and collaborates with all members of the interdisciplinary team.
- 13) Discuss eligibility, covered services and sites of care pertinent to the Medicare Hospice Benefit and routine hospice services.
- 14) Demonstrate effective patient-centered communication skills in: Giving Bad News, Defining Prognosis, Setting Goals and Making Transitions in Care, Eliciting Resuscitation preferences, Assessing Decisional Capacity, Referring to Hospice.
- 15) Apply ethical principles that inform decision-making in serious illness, including the right to decline or withdraw life-sustaining treatment, decision-making capacity and substituted judgment, and physician-assisted death.
- 16) Describe and perform communication tasks at time of death, including death pronouncement, family notification and support, and autopsy request.

Faculty Contact

First name	Last name	Title or role	Email	Phone	Pager or beeper
Laura	Morrison	M.D.	laura.morrison@yale.edu	(203) 785-6977	(203) xxx-xxxx

VA Staff Contact during regular business hours (7:30am – 4:00pm, M-F):

First name	Last name	Title or role	Email	Phone	Office Address:
Vickie	Johnson	Senior Administrative Assistant, Yale Cancer Center	vickie.johnson@yale.edu	(203) 785-6977	LMP-1072

Are there any blocks when residents may NOT be scheduled for the Palliative Care Elective at Y-NHH?

Yes. During AY14-15 all block 1A through block 11A, NO residents may be scheduled for the Palliative Care Elective at YNHH York Street Campus per Dr. Laura Morrison.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Please email Vickie Johnson vickie.johnson@yale.edu two weeks prior to your start date so she can send reading and orientation materials and other information the resident should review before beginning the elective rotation. She will also confirm the attending on service and the start date and time and location for meeting the attending and palliative care team.

The Palliative Care Team office and attending offices are in LMP 1072 but the Team most often meets daily at 9AM in the NP 12 Conference Room. All should be confirmed with Vickie Johnson.

Will Yale Affiliated Hospitals' Program Internal Medicine residents be required to take EPIC Training in order to participate in elective?

Yes, all participating residents are required to have EPIC Training before they begin this elective rotation.

Maximum number of residents accepted at a given time:

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PGY Levels who may be scheduled from Yale Internal Medicine Residency Program(s):

PGY2, PGY3, PGY4. However, no PGY1's may be scheduled for the Palliative Care Elective at Y-NHH.

PGY Levels who may be scheduled from Yale Affiliated Hospitals Program Internal Medicine Program(s):

Yale Affiliated Hospitals Program IM Residency Programs: Bridgeport Hospital, Danbury Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Griffin Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital and Waterbury Hospital Internal Medicine Program Residents.

PGY2, PGY3 Yale Affiliates. PGY1's may not be scheduled for the Palliative Care Elective at Y-NHH.