

Palliative care:

Specific challenge in Iranian training system

Submitted by

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OVERVIEW

Title: Palliative care: specific challenge in Iranian training system

Country Partners: Italy, Iran

Duration: 24 months

Overall Objective:

To increase the number of experts in the field of palliative care in Iran;
To improve the quality and dignity of life of cancer patients at advanced stage;
To increase the supply of palliative care' services toward cancer patients in advanced stage;
To implement the use of palliative care at home.

Project purpose:

The level of training in the field of palliative care (for those who are responsible on delivering) is improved in Iran.

The quality of education and training in the field of palliative care is improved by multidisciplinary and innovative support, creating more opportunities for all, including those who are less advantaged.

The project aims to achieve 3 results:

1. The holistic approach toward cancer patients in advanced stage is facilitated
2. Interest of potential beneficiaries of the project has been boosted
3. The academic opportunity in palliative care assistance through innovative methods has been increased

The project aims to work on several areas:

- AWARENESS of the Learning Model Combined. Type of study that includes different ways of learning. The term is often used to refer more specifically to courses that offer a combination of workshops or seminars in the presence of traditional and online distance learning techniques.
- E-LEARNING for adult learners in the field of palliative care.
- JOB SHADOWING. Planning of short stays in organization partners with the aim of receiving professional training from the host organization, to exchange new practices, develop knowledge, sign new long term partnerships through participative observation.
- DISSEMINATION of the socio-economic and health results.

Better education in the oncology's field is a key to reduce mortality due to late diagnosis and mistaken treatment. Well performing education and training systems can help to tackle the challenge of fight against cancer by providing people with the necessary skills.

The project aims to support Programme Countries' efforts to efficiently use the potential of Europe's talent and social assets in a lifelong learning perspective.

The investment in knowledge, skills and competences will benefit individuals, institutions, organizations and society as a whole by contributing to growth and ensuring equity, prosperity and social inclusion.

Long term results to be achieved by the parts:

- An approach that makes front of geographical and socioeconomic disparities in learning results;
- Stimulation of competitiveness and employment;
- Integration of new practices and new methods in the field of palliative care, with regard of home care assistance;
- Greater synergies with international organizations and improvement of the abilities of working within Europe and on an international scale;
- Greater strategic planning of the professional development in line with the specific country necessities;

- Education systems more aligned to the needs of the labour market and international standards;
- More strategic and integrated use of information technologies and open educational resources from the fields of education and training;
- Greater recognition and certification of skills and competencies in the field of palliative care at national level with reference to the European and national qualification frameworks, using European instruments.

Main features:

1. Innovation. Innovation is considered cutting edge, specific for the project and related to the context and the needs analyzed.
2. Sustainability. A strong partnership and a committed and balanced participation of stakeholders is essential for the success of the project. The role and the contribution of each one must be specific and complementary.
3. Impact. The partnership and the activities will last after the end of the specific project. Impacts and changes need to be evaluated and measured. Results need to be transferred and accessible to a bigger public.

Hypothetical training provision :

Module 1 – Oncology today

- 1.1 Cancer epidemiology and biology
- 1.2 Progress in health technology for cancer including organizational models for cancer management
- 1.3 The state of the art in cancer treatment worldwide
- 1.4 Hospital at home
- 1.5 Palliative care approaches in Iran
- 1.6 Approaches to integrate medical oncology and palliative medicine
- 1.7 Approaches to avoid senseless treatment with “alternative medical treatment”

Module 2 – Principle and practice of advanced care medicine

- 2.1 Surgery in advanced cancer
- 2.2 Radiotherapy in advanced cancer
- 2.3 Anticancer drug treatment
- 2.4 Imaging techniques and indications
- 2.5 Response evaluation, response criteria and follow up schedules
- 2.6 Cost-Benefit
- 2.7 How to acquire state of the art knowledge and to transfer the current evidence based guidelines into daily clinical practice of palliative care
- 2.8 Specific Challenges in Iran

Module 3 – Principle and practice of psycho-oncology in palliative care

- 3.1 General issue of communication
- 3.2 Communication issue when stopping chemotherapy
- 3.3 Breaking bad news
- 3.4 Communication in the palliative care unit
- 3.5 Communication in the hospice
- 3.6 Communication issues to the family
- 3.7 Religious intervention

Module 4 - Principles and practice of pain treatment

- 4.1 Prevalence and etiology
- 4.2 Pain assessment and classification
- 4.3 Treatment of pain
- 4.4 Analgesics
- 4.5 Co-analgesic and adjuvant drugs
- 4.6 Non pharmacological intervention
- 4.7 Psychological and spiritual intervention

Module 5 - Nursing aspects

- 5.1 Nursing at home
- 5.2 Nursing at the hospital
- 5.3 Nursing at the hospice
- 5.4 Nursing in the last weeks
- 5.5 Nursing during dying
- 5.6 Nursing and bereavement
- 5.7 Physician and nurse

Equity and Inclusion

The project aims at promoting equity and inclusion by facilitating the access to participants with disadvantaged backgrounds and fewer opportunities compared to their peers whenever disadvantage limits or prevents participation in transnational activities for reasons such as:

- physical disability;
- economic obstacles;
- cultural differences;
- health problems;
- social obstacles;
- geographical obstacles.

Protection and Safety of Participants

All persons participating in the project should have the opportunity to take full advantage of the possibilities for personal and professional development and learning. This should be assured in a safe environment which respects and protects the rights of all persons.