



Medical Student Competencies in Palliative Care: Serious Illness Communication

- Explores patient and family understanding of illness, concerns, values, and goals in order to develop goal-concordant treatment plans across settings of care.
- Demonstrates effective approaches to exploring and responding to strong emotions in patients and families facing serious illness.
- Applies a patient-centered framework to sharing difficult news, exploring pain and symptom burden, assessing prognostic awareness, discussing resuscitation preferences, and describing care at end of life.
- Demonstrates awareness of one's own emotions and attitudes, and coping strategies for managing stress and uncertainty when caring for seriously ill patients.
- Defines and explains the philosophy and role of palliative care, and differentiates hospice from palliative care.