

Palliative care: a new training program for residents in FM



Educational objectives

3 levels:

1. Department level (Academic/conceptual):

Support a resident-initiated project (personal involvement)

2. Residents' training level:

- K- Reinforce prior fragmented theoretical knowledge
- S- Develop practical skills through experiential learning
- A- Integrate palliative care in daily work for all FD

3. Patients and community care level:

- Improve accessibility and availability of palliative care
- Improve continuity of care when moving to palliative care (by same providers)

Curriculum in palliative care for 1st year residents in FM (N=20)

- 2 half-days on legal, clinical and practical aspects of palliative care
- Exposure to home hospice care existing system
- Pairing a hospice care patient to each resident who becomes the main palliative care provider
- Forming a supportive team with a hospice nurse or social worker and a senior consultant-available 24/7
- Emotional support by FM social worker - available 24/7
- Group meetings for debriefing and sharing residents' clinical experiences and emotional issues

A resident wrote...

The woman I was taking care of in the hospice care project died 2 days ago. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Ido and you for the opportunity that was given to me to take part in this hard, challenging and teaching journey.

I have been taking care of Miriam for 5 months with the help of Ido who was ready to answer the phone, give some advice when needed, involve our social worker when he felt that I was overwhelmed. He knew how to say the right words at the right time, teach when appropriate and even came once to visit my patient together with me in order to help me be more specific in my treatment plan.

This journey in the last 2 months taught me many aspects - emotional support of the patient and her family, better pain treatment, palliative care and thinking about symptoms.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart, especially to Ido who walked this path with me in a sensitive, wise and warm manner.