

European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care

The majority of healthcare professionals working in hospitals and the community look after patients with palliative care needs on a regular basis. The European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care (ECEPC) is aimed at helping those professionals consolidate and develop their palliative care confidence and expertise, in accordance with the End of Life Care Strategy 2008. The course is designed to meet the needs of healthcare professionals new to specialist palliative care services who wish to establish strong foundations of knowledge on which to build specialist knowledge and skills. It is suitable for professionals who have direct contact with patients requiring a palliative approach and care.

The course is eight week home based learning, multi-professional programme, covering:

- What is palliative care and who is it for?
- Symptom issues in palliative care
- Patients with emergency conditions
- Patients in the last 48 hours of life
- Breaking bad news to patients and families
- Bereavement and support
- Common ethical issues

Candidates will be required to attend an assessment day at St Gemma's Hospice.

The course was developed at Princess Alice Hospice in 2001. It is now offered at a range of sites both nationally and internationally – including St Gemma's Hospice Leeds.

Course fee: £450 payable to St Gemma's Hospice (*together with the application form*).

For further course details please contact:

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or visit: www.europeanecertificate@pah.org.uk



Princess Alice Hospice is a registered charity no. 1010930 and company registered in England and Wales no. 1599796

Information for Prospective Candidates



Course information:

Candidates are invited to an optional introductory evening at St Gemma's Hospice.

Course resources:

Candidates will receive the Course Handbook containing the core text material. Candidates will also have access to the Princess Alice Hospice virtual learning environment – learningzone.pah.org.uk and be allocated a facilitator who will support them through their portfolio submission. The facilitators are experienced specialist palliative care practitioners who will be available by email or telephone.

Assessment:

Candidates undertake three different forms of assessment; a pass is required in each of the sections.

Portfolio – each candidate will complete a portfolio, involving critical reflection, based on a patient they have cared for with palliative care needs. It will include the effects it had on both a personal and professional level. The portfolio should be supported by literature and demonstrate how the learning will influence future care. It will be 2,000 words.

Written examination – There will be a one hour examination, which will include short true / false questions covering the principles of palliative care explored in the Course Handbook. There will be an additional short written paper of four questions on common opioid dose conversions.

Practical / oral assessment – The final element will be a short oral assessment exploring the knowledge and skills developed during the course.

On successful completion of the assessments candidates will be awarded the Princess Alice Hospice European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care.

How long is the course?

This is an eight-week course which can be carried out at a distance from the chosen site. Please note, however, attendance at the local site assessment day is mandatory. It is recommended you carry out around 50 hours personal study, but this will vary depending on previous experience of palliative care.

Where does the course run?

The course is centrally run by Princess Alice Hospice in Esher, Surrey, but the Leeds local site is run by St. Gemma's Hospice, Leeds.

To book a place, please contact:

0113 218 5195

You can download an application form from:

www.st-gemma.co.uk/professional-development

Dates for 2019:

**Monday, 15 April to
Wednesday, 12 June**

**Monday, 16 September to
Wednesday, 13 November**

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