

CLINICAL ONCOLOGY AND PALLIATIVE CARE POSTS

Relevant Section(s) of Curriculum: 12 Care of People with Cancer and Palliative Care

What the trainee could get out of post:

Appreciation of Important Issues Identified

1. Awareness of spiritual elements of care and pastoral care
2. Ethics - Autonomy and Confidentiality, Collusion, Avoidance and Disclosure
3. Grief and Bereavement Issues
4. Housekeeping – Looking after yourself
5. Legal issues – Advanced directives, Certification – Death Certificate, Cremation
6. OOH Issues – Continuity, Documentation
7. Importance of Adaptability to Different Situations eg Expected Deaths – planning, Dealing with late diagnoses
8. End of Life Issues – withdrawal of treatment
9. Practical Issues -Welfare/Benefits/SW
10. Includes Non-Cancer Terminal Illness eg MND, MS

Appreciation of Roles of Others

1. Hospice
2. 'Multi-disciplinary Team'
3. Hospital Staff including Consultants, Specialist Nurses and Radiotherapists
4. MacMillan Nurses
5. Social Work department
6. District Nursing Staff
7. Family and Friends

Specific Skills

1. Communication skills – Breaking bad news, Speaking with relatives, Across primary-secondary care interface including with hospice colleagues
2. Communicating risk eg in drug trials

Specific Knowledge

REGARDING TREATMENT

1. Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy – Understand what involved, Management of common side effects
2. Symptom control measures eg Nausea, Pain, Constipation, Agitation, Secretions
3. Non-Pharmacological
4. When need to admit eg hypercalcaemia, haemorrhage, pathological fracture

BEST PRACTICE

1. Gold Standard Framework, Liverpool Care Pathway
2. Cancer DES

How:**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN HOSPITAL SETTING****Learning from experts**

1. **Specialist Clinics** – Oncology Outpatients, Pain management
2. **Ward-Based Activities** – Involvement with Patient management including discharge planning
3. **Attend MDT Meetings** – Reflection including SEAs, Case Based Discussion, Debriefing as a Team
4. **Hospice visit**
5. **Case Based Discussion or Case Presentations** eg could present at HDR (Half Day Release) to share learning
6. **Further qualifications** eg Diploma in Palliative Medicine