

CAPC Announces New Pediatric and Southern Region PCLC Centers

Earlier this year, a competitive call for proposals was conducted to invite qualified candidates to apply to become one of the Palliative Care Leadership Centers™ (PCLC)—the nation's premier training and mentoring initiative for palliative care program development and growth.

CAPC is pleased to introduce:

- Akron Children's Hospital—Haslinger Pediatric Palliative Care Division is located in Akron, Ohio and is led by Sarah Frieber, M.D.
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota—Children's Pain and Palliative Care Programs is located in Minneapolis, Minnesota and is led by Stefan Friedrichsdorf, MD, and Jody Chrastek, M.S.N., C.H.P.N.
- University of Alabama at Birmingham is located in Birmingham, Alabama and is led by Christine Ritchie, M.D., Rodney Tucker, M.D., and Amos Bailey, M.D.

The PCLC is supported by The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Sessions fill months in advance and are available on a first-come, first-served basis only.

For more information, dates and locations: www.capc.org/pclc.

The PainEDU Manual: A Pocket Guide to Pain Management

Register online to access a free copy of the third edition of the comprehensive management resource for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other clinicians. The manual provides an overview of pain epidemiology, pathophysiology, types of pain, assessment, measurement tools, diagnostic testing, and treatment. The PainEDU Supplement: *Patient Level Opioid Risk Management*, a practical guide for clinicians starting patients on opioid therapy, is also available. Visit the website to access: www.painedu.org/manual.asp

Hospice and Palliative Care in Southeastern Asia

The International Observatory on End of Life Care (IOELC) has published its Open Society Institute-funded review of hospice and palliative developments in the countries of Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines.

Data on opioid availability are also presented, along with information on the country's population, public health context, epidemiology, health care system, and political economy; key ethical issues are described. The report is available via the IOELC website and may be downloaded from: www.ioelc-observatory.net/global/pdf/seasia_aug08.pdf

AAHPM Now Accepting Applications: Clinical Scholars Program

The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) is now accepting applications from physi-

cians for this 1-week observership program at select HPM sites across the United States. The program is designed to provide a focused clinical experience in hospice and palliative medicine to physicians. The eight sites were chosen based on their outstanding reputation, superior service, and well regarded expertise in the field. The sites include Capital Hospice in Falls Church, Virginia; Hospice of the Bluegrass in Lexington, Kentucky; Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter in Glenview, Illinois; San Diego Hospice & Palliative Care in San Diego, California; Stanford University/VA Palo Alto Hospice and HPC Program in Palo Alto, California; University of Alabama at Birmingham/VA Medical Center Palliative Care Program in Birmingham, Alabama; and University of Pittsburgh Institute to Enhance Palliative Care in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

As part of its educational mission, the Academy is committed to providing excellent training for physicians in the principles and practice of palliative medicine. Training the next generation of leaders is key to helping meet the demand for physicians with clinical experience in hospice and palliative medicine to work in hospices and hospital-based palliative care programs. This Clinical Scholars Program offers a diverse selection of sites across the country where participants will work alongside experienced leaders in the field.

For more information please visit www.aahpm.org/education/clinicaltraining.html

In the Face of Pain® Online Advocacy Toolkit

The comprehensive toolkit provides pain-specific advocacy information and resources covering topics related to legislative, media, community and professional organizations, as well as advocacy through research and access to care. The website also provides advocates with the ability to research hundreds of current pain-related statistics based on condition, population or issue. A unique feature of the In the Face of Pain® Online Advocacy Toolkit is that it helps advocates create individualized advocacy action plans and educational materials, such as fact sheets or presentations that are tailored to the advocate's specific area of focus. www.inthefaceofpain.com

American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Introduces Physician and Patient Education Brochures

The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) offers physician and patient education brochures on hospice and palliative care.

The physician education brochures are designed to introduce the specialty of hospice and palliative medicine to other medical professionals. Offering a general look into the many functions and talents of hospice and palliative care specialists and case examples of scenarios appropriate for referral, this brochure is an excellent tool to use to promote a physician's practice and inform other medical professionals about their vital function in the care of patients and on the interdisciplinary team.

The patient education brochures are written with patients in mind and can be used in the physician's office or for distribution at community-wide events. This brochure provides the necessary information about hospice and palliative care to patients and families facing a life-limiting illness. Featuring general information about the specialty and practical vignettes about others who benefit from the hospice and palliative medicine approach to care, this brochure is a vital tool to make patients active participants in their care.

For more information about the physician and patient education brochures on hospice and palliative care, or membership in the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, contact AAHPM Member Services at 847-375-4712, or visit the AAHPM website at www.aahpm.org

Social Work Fellowship

A postgraduate Social Work Fellowship in palliative and end-of-life care is available through the Department of Pain Medicine and Palliative Care (DPMPC) at Beth Israel Medical Center. The fellowship program provides a supervised experience in the multidimensional assessment and care of patients, in multiple practice sites (an inpatient pain, palliative care and hospice unit, inpatient consultation service and an ambulatory practice) at various points along the continuum of life threatening illness. Fellows participate in interdisciplinary rounds, case discussions, didactic conferences, and departmental meetings with the focus on multidimensional approaches to symptom management, palliative and end of life care. Learning will be complemented by access to interdisciplinary experts and resources such as the departmental multimedia Resource Center where a broad range of educational materials is available.

Designed to develop role models, leaders and mentors, the social work fellowship was established with a grant from the Open Society Institute Project on Death in America (PDIA) through their Social Work Leadership Award and receives ongoing support through the Barbara Zirinsky Fund. The program will be offered on a full time basis for 1 year and includes stipend and benefits. Applications are available at the Department website at www.stoppain.org

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IAHPC's Global Directory on Education in Palliative Care

The International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC) is working to develop a global directory on education in palliative care that will offer a comprehensive database of palliative care educational opportunities around the world. This directory will list only formal courses (degree and nondegree), while symposiums, congresses and workshops will continue to be listed in the IAHPC's events and meetings page.

If your institution or university offers a course in palliative care, visit the website: www.hospicecare.com/cgi-script/csFormbuilder/forms/EducationDirectory.htm, to complete the questionnaire; listing is free and is provided by IAHPC as a service to their readers and the global palliative care community.

Palliative Care in the European Union

The external report *Palliative Care in the European Union* has been published in hard copy and also in PDF by the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.

The report was approved recently and you can refer or distribute freely, and is already published in hard copy and also in PDF by the European Parliament's Committee. The electronic format PDF can be downloaded in the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/6ogtz5>

Clinical Fellowships Available

The Center for Palliative Studies at San Diego Hospice & Palliative Care offers 10 one-year clinical fellowships leading to eligibility for certification by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, beginning July 1 each year. Two second-year research positions are available for physicians preparing for an academic career. Preferred candidates will BE or BC by an ABMS-recognized board. Combined training in Geriatrics, Hematology Oncology is possible. For more information, please contact Charles F. von Gunten, M.D., Ph.D., at cvongunten@sdhospice.org or 619-278-6225. San Diego Hospice & Palliative Care is a teaching and research affiliate of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine.