

## HOT TOPICS FOR PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH IN PALLIATIVE CARE: CURRENT STATE AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Stiefel F, Service de Psychiatrie de Liaison, University Hospital, Lausanne, Switzerland

Although psychiatric aspects of palliative care add a considerable amount of suffering on patients and their families, psychiatric research – compared to research on symptom control – has been neglected. In order to meet the challenges of “interdisciplinarity” and “global understanding of the patient”, palliative care will have to increase psychiatric research. Given the limited human and financial resources in most of the palliative care settings, such research should be focused on neglected and relevant topics, which have a direct benefit for patient care. A close overview on recent developments in consultation-liaison psychiatry will serve as a base for an outline of potentially interesting topics for psychiatric research in palliative care. Hot topics with a research priority will be evaluated with regard to their feasibility, relevance and potential impact on patient care.