

Conclusion. Concern for loved ones was identified as the most common theme of end-of-life reflections.

Implications for Research, Policy, or Practice. Health care professionals should extend their efforts to alleviate their patients' concerns related to relationships with loved ones. Future research could focus on determining the specific causes of concern for loved ones among the dying patients and developing measures to ameliorate such concerns.

Increasing Awareness of Palliative Care in the Latino Community (S827)



Joy Goebel, PhD RN FPCN, California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA. Mara Bird, PhD, Center for Latino Community Health, Long Beach, CA. Lorene Morris, MPS, California State University Institute for Palliative Care, San Marcos, CA. Erika Bonilla, MPH, California State University Long Beach Research Foundation, Long Beach, CA.

Objectives

1. Discuss challenges and opportunities to improving awareness of palliative care in underserved communities.
2. Identify potential community partners to reach underserved populations the provider's areas of practice.

Original Research Background. Research indicates significant disparities in the use of palliative care (PC) in underserved populations. Although 17% of America's population is Latino, and Latinos account for 48% of California's population, only 6.9% of individuals receiving PC are Latino. Thus, culturally and linguistically sensitive approaches to improve awareness of PC are imperative to improving health outcomes among Latinos.

Research Objectives. To evaluate the feasibility of applying the promotores model to improving awareness of PC in the Latino Community. To describe the implementation and evaluation of a PC promotores project in an urban setting.

Methods. Promotores are respected Latino community members who provide health information to their local communities. *Familias en Acción* (a Latino advocacy and educational organization) and the Center for Latino Community Health at California State University, Long Beach partnered to provide 3- to 8-hour face to face trainings to promotores on PC. Each promotora agreed to teach 10 additional people. Pre and post surveys and 6-month follow-up telephone interviews evaluated program effectiveness.

Results. Sixty-one promotores participated; 57 completed the 6-month follow-up (93% retention rate). The mean age for the promotoras was 47.3 years (range 19-68, standard deviation [SD] 10.01); mean

length of US residency was 26.74 years (range 6-64, SD 11.18); 56 (91.8%) were female; and 52 (85%) reported their country of origin as Mexico. Initially, 57 (94%) promotores reported no knowledge of PC. At the completion of the training, 60 (98%) reported strongly agreed or agree with the statement, "I am ready to share this information with my community." Promotores provided the training in various settings including schools, churches, and senior centers to 1,950 community members, exceeding project Objectives by threefold.

Conclusion. This project provides evidence that promotores are extremely effective in disseminating PC information throughout their communities.

Implications for Research, Policy, or Practice. Rigorous methodologies are needed to provide empiric evidence of specific healthcare outcomes from PC promotores projects.

"Supportive Care Nurses" An Innovative Inpatient Primary Palliative Care Consultation Service at an Academic Medical Center (S828)



Yuya Hagiwara, MD MACM, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA. Ann Struve, DNP ARNP, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA. Christine Harlander, MSN, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA. Ian Rowland University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA. Suzanne Streitz, BA, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA. Timothy Thomsen, MD FACS, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

Objectives

1. Describe a nurse-led primary palliative care consultation service to provide early palliative support for patients at a tertiary academic medical center.
2. Determine acceptability and perceived effectiveness of a nurse-led primary palliative care consultation approach.

Original Research Background. The ability to provide primary palliative care is a skill set that is underutilized by hospitalists. Many hospitalized patients lack access to palliative care consultation. To fill this gap, a primary palliative care consultation service could be beneficial to patients, families and hospitalists in addition to specialty level palliative care consult services.

Research Objectives.

- To develop a nurse-led inpatient primary palliative care consultation service.
- To evaluate the acceptability and perceived effectiveness of a nurse-led primary palliative care consultation approach.

Methods. A single-site, single-arm pilot study was conducted at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics.