Disease Prognostication: An Inexact Art & Science

• Individualized care: Choosing the best prognostication tool
• Determining palliative care vs. hospice care
• Crucial conversations

Congestive Heart Failure: The Broken Heart

• Best practice: The Seattle HF Model
• Medication management strategies
• Living longer with morphine
• Helping the patient breathe
• Pacemakers, ICD’s & LVAD’s - Living better or prolonging suffering?

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Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease

• Global Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) Guidelines
• Staging the disease
• Spirometry: A required test
• The mMRC Breathlessness Scale

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Renal Disease

• Appropriate use of dialysis
• Staging disease with Glomerular Filtration Rate
• Hemodialysis mortality predictor
• Symptom burden
• Underutilization of hospice

Liver Disease

• Indicators of poor prognosis
• Differentiating when cirrhosis is the cause
• Most useful analgesics for the pain
• Waiting for transplant while on hospice: UC Davis Experience

Advanced Dementia

• SAGE: A test to measure thinking abilities
• The latest on available pain scales
• Feeding tube dilemmas - and outcomes
• Delirium and dementia: Using the Confusion Assessment Method
• Interventions for agitation and aggression

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Challenging Decisions

• What do people want at the end of life?
• Delirium vs. near death awareness
• Mental health needs of the dying
• Palliative sedation therapy for intractable symptoms
• Does the dying person need hydration? Oxygen? Treatment for rales?

Moral Distress

• Uncomfortable patient/family scenarios
• Ethical dilemmas
• Medication errors
• Conflicted consciences

Can’t Miss Topics!

• Disease Prognostication
• Heart Failure • COPD
• End Stage Renal Disease
• Liver Failure
• Advanced Dementia
• ALS
• Advanced Cancer

OBJECTIVES

1. Evaluate functional assessment scales that are predictive of poor survival
2. Explain the benefits of using palliative care principles for patients with end stage disease.
3. Analyze five complications related to feeding tubes.

LIVE SEMINAR SCHEDULE

7:30 Registration/Morning Coffee & Tea
8:00 Program begins
11:50-1:00 Lunch (on your own)
4:00 Program ends

Topical Areas

• Disease Prognostication: An Inexact Art & Science
• Individualized care: Choosing the best prognostication tool
• Determining palliative care vs. hospice care
• Congestive Heart Failure: The Broken Heart
• Best practice: The Seattle HF Model
• Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease: Global Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) Guidelines
• Staging the disease
• Spironomory: A required test
• The mMRC Breathlessness Scale
• Renal Disease: Appropriate use of dialysis
• Staging disease with Glomerular Filtration Rate
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• Ethical dilemmas
• Medication errors
• Conflicted consciences

This seminar includes 60 minutes of ethics instruction.
End Stage Diseases Care When There is No Cure

End of Life: A Nurse’s Guide to Compassionate Care

**By Multiple Authors**

This sensitively-written book offers a wealth of insight and practical advice for nurses in every specialty and setting providing end-of-life care. Nurses will learn how to address patients’ spiritual concerns, ensure that physical needs are met, help patients maintain their dignity, and provide emotional support to grieving families. Nurses will also learn how to cope with their own feelings about dying and end-of-life issues. Coverage includes end-of-life interventions for pediatric care, pain control, alternative therapies, physical and psychological signs of, and growing. Insightful quotes from the well-known end-of-life specialist Jaya Levens offer advice on giving compassionate care.

The Needs of the Dying

By David Kessler

In compassionate, language. The Needs of the Dying helps us through the last chapter of our lives. Author David Kessler has identified key areas of concern: the need to be treated as a living human being, the need for hope, the need for empathy, the need to participate in care, the need for tenderness, the need for spirituality, and the need to be free of physical pain. Examining the physical and emotional experiences, Dr. Kessler offers a vocabulary for family members and for the dying that allows them to communicate with doctors, with hospital staff, and with one another. And, as the time the right words are exceedingly difficult to find - he helps readers find a way to say goodbye.

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• What can we do about patients with COPD who have no solution for exacerbations except to come to the emergency department, or go to ICU? One medical director has an excellent intervention for this.

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SPEAKER

Judy Dobson, RN, MSN, CHPN, is employed as a hospice and palliative care nurse educator. Judy’s experience and compassion for patients with end stage disease through her time working as a hospice director, Judy organized the first local bereavement camp for children and the first local bereavement camp for adults. In addition, Judy is the NEACNP (Nurse End of Life - A Nurse’s Guide to Compassionate Care

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