

Integrating Palliative Oncology Care into Doctor of Nursing Practice Programs



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Background

Cancer

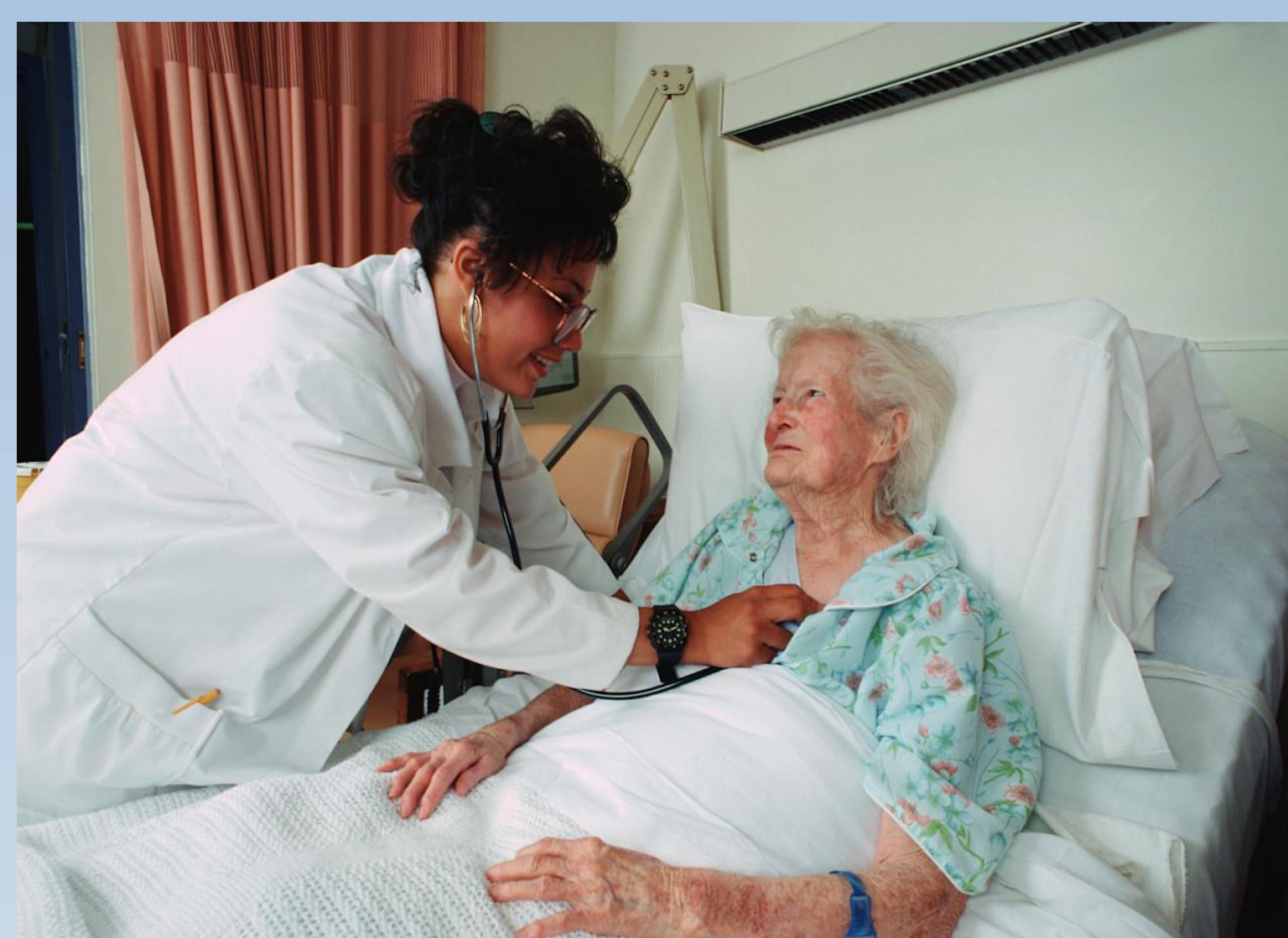
- 1.7 million people in the U.S. will be diagnosed in 2017
- Increasing demand for cancer services due to growing population and increasing complexity of cancer care
- Limited number of oncology providers to meet demand
- Hospitals and Comprehensive Cancer Centers challenged to implement quality palliative care
- Need to educate doctoral nursing students to champion palliative oncology care

Palliative Care

- Specialized care for people with serious illness.
- Goal: improve quality of life for both person and family
- Provided by team of doctors, nurses, and other specialists who work with patient's other providers to provide extra layer of support
- Appropriate at any age and at any stage in a serious illness
- Can be provided together with curative treatment

Evidence for Palliative Oncology Care

- IOM (2013). *Delivering high-quality cancer care: charting a new course for a system in crisis*
- ASCO (2017), *State of cancer care in America: 2017* <https://www.asco.org/research-progress/reports-studies/state-cancer-care-America-2017>
- Ferrell et al. (2017) Palliative care & phase I trials. *CJON*, 21(4), 473-480



Why Prepare DNP Students in Palliative Oncology Care ?

- IOM & RWJ Report (2011), *The future of nursing: leadership changes, advancing health* called for nurses with advanced education to transform health care
- ANA (2010) endorsed support for the AACN Position Statement on the Practice Doctorate in Nursing (2004), which encouraged APN roles to move to the doctoral level

Project

Objective

To integrate oncology palliative care content into DNP program curricula

Elements

- National 2-day train-the-trainer course
- Participants: DNP faculty and DNP clinicians
- Faculty: National palliative care and oncology experts
- Format
 - Lecture, case study reviews, small group discussions
- Course materials to take back to use at home institutions and cancer centers

Curriculum

Day 1	Day 2
DNP Role	Assessing & Managing Pain/Non-Pain Symptoms
Update on Cancer Care	Business, Finance, & Economics
Incorporating content into DNP Programs	Health Systems Change Case Study
Changing Institutional Culture Regarding Palliative Oncology	Regulation, Outcomes Measurement, Guidelines, & Quality Improvement
Enhancing Communication to Patients, Families, Teams	Lessons learned on integrating content into DNP Programs
Interprofessional Teams	Developing Plans to Imbed Content into Participant Programs

Preliminary Data

- 184 DNP faculty/clinicians participated in the 4 national workshops between 2014-2016
- 95% of participants rated the curriculum as excellent
- Data gathered to date from 6, 12 and 18 months post workshop attendance show successful outreach to > 3,000 advanced practice clinicians and students

Conclusions

1. Need for comprehensive cancer services increasing
2. Evidence shows palliative care improves outcomes for patients and families across the disease trajectory
3. Integrating palliative care into oncology care in DNP programs has resulted in an increase in palliative care providers, educators, and administrators
4. DNPs are positioned to play a key role in advocating for and advancing palliative care in oncology settings.

Coming Soon!

NCI R25 Oncology APRN Generalist Palliative Care Education

For More Information: Visit the ELNEC Website:
<http://www.aacnursing.org/ELNEC>

