Palliative Care Conference Schedule

HPM Lecture Series-
Thursdays from 2:00-4:00 PM
VA/ GRECC Conference Room
F206 or UH South F7898

Palliative Care Research Conferences-
4:00-5:00 PM
VA/ GRECC Conference Room
F206
• September 27, 2018
• October 25, 2018
• January 24, 2019

For conference details, visit:
https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/geriatric-palliative-medicine

Paws for Palliative Care Patients

Thanks to annual support from the Laurence Polatsch Fund, one of Michigan Medicine’s therapy dogs, Anna, has joined the Adult Palliative Care Consult Service. Along with her handler, Chaplain Lori-Jene Brazier, Anna participates in team rounds, visits patients at the bedside, and even attends family meetings.

Anna has played a particularly valuable role in the Palliative Care Unit, where she comforts grieving families and helps bring a sense of home to the hospital. Anna has nobly supported many children and adults alike at the time of their loved one’s passing, often becoming the furry shoulder they cry on.

As our experience with canine assistants grows, we look forward to finding new ways to help not only our patients and families at Michigan Medicine, but also our devoted staff.

If you would like to learn more about Anna or wish give to the Paws4Patients Program, please contact Kate Blazer kbalzer@med.umich.edu or 734-764-1202, or go to
https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/find/?utm_source=mmdev&utm_campaign=gbd#!/give/basket/fund/327814?keyword=dog

To make a gift to the Adult Palliative Care Program:
https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/find/#!/mimed/mimed/palliative
Palliative Care Research Funding Available

We are pleased to announce the annual launch of the “Pilot and Exploratory Projects in Palliative Care” competition. Investigators can receive as much as $20,000 per study to fund 2 years of pilot research focused on palliative care for patients with life limiting illness and/or their caregivers. Brief applications from UM faculty are due October 29, 2018. The announcement and application can be accessed at: https://umms.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1775782

Local Learning Opportunities

Michigan Medicine is pleased to “The Power of Palliative and End-of-Life Care” on October 15 & 16, 2018 from 7:30am to 4pm at the School of Nursing Conference Center (426 N. Ingalls, Ann Arbor). This conference is open to all clinical disciplines, but is tailored towards nurses. Topics include: palliative nursing care, symptom management, comfort order sets, ethical decision making, resiliency, grief, and communication. The cost to attend the conference is $100. For further info, please contact Deb Price at debprice@med.umich.edu.

Meet our new HPM Physician Fellows!

Cynthia Chen, M.D.
Dr. Chen received her medical degree from Wayne State University in 2015 and completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at Henry Ford Hospital in 2018. Her interests include the delivery of palliative care in the Emergency Department.

Antonio Gabriel DeLeon Corona, M.D.
Dr. Corona is a nephrologist who received his specialty training at Baylor. He received his medical degree from the University of Santo Tomas and completed a residency in Internal Medicine at GWU Providence Hospital. He loves to teach, and hopes to start and develop a nephrology-based palliative care program.

Hui Hui (Madison) Li, M.D.
Dr. Li received her medical degree from the Ohio State University College of Medicine in 2015 and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio in 2018.

Sara Silbert, M.D.
Dr. Silbert received her medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine in 2015. She completed her residency in Pediatrics at McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern/Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago in 2018. After completing her palliative care fellowship, Dr. Silbert will be pursuing hematology-oncology training.
New Hospice and Palliative Nurse Practitioner Fellowship Program Started July 1

In partnership with the School of Nursing, the Palliative Care Program has started a clinical fellowship in palliative care for nurse practitioners this year. This one year, comprehensive, post-graduate fellowship program will allow new graduates and experienced nurse practitioners to develop clinical skills in hospice and palliative care. This is the first advanced practice nursing (APN) fellowship at the University of Michigan. Nationally, there are only seven fellowships available for APNs in palliative care. Fellowship programs are gaining recognition to improve role development for APNs in specialty roles and transition into advanced practice.

The fellows will rotate through a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings to give them a diverse experience across the health system. As part of their experience, they will work on the Michigan Medicine Adult Palliative Care Consult Service and care for patients in the University Hospital’s palliative care beds. They also get experience with the Palliative Care Consult Service at the Ann Arbor Veteran Affairs Medical Center as well as hospice.

We thank MaryPat Mullin, Lisa Kane Low, and Kira Stalhandske for their tireless efforts to make this happen and to the Palliative Care Fellowship Program for their support.

Meet our New Nursing Fellows!

Alexis Miller RN, MSN, AGACNP-BC
Alexis completed her BSN (2013) and MSN (2018) at Madonna University in Livonia, MI. Prior to earning her Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification, she worked as a registered nurse in the Adult Emergency Department at Michigan Medicine with a large portion of her time spent in the Emergency Critical Care Center (EC3).

April Bigelow, PhD, ANP-BC, AGPCNP-BC
Dr. Bigelow earned her BSN (1999), MS (2003), and PhD (Nursing, 2008) from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She teaches in the adult-gerontology and family nurse practitioner graduate programs at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She has special interests in primary care and health promotion, chronic disease management, vulnerable populations, and palliative care.