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**HOSPICE &
PALLIATIVE CARE
TODAY**

April 13th, 2024

Saturday newsletters focus on headlines and research - enjoy!

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Research News

Hospices and emergency preparedness planning: A scoping review of the literature

Journal of Palliative Care, by Janna E Baker Rogers; 4/24

Palliative and end-of-life care, as provided by hospices, are important elements of a healthcare response to disasters. A scoping review of the literature was conducted to examine and synthesize what is currently known about emergency preparedness planning by hospices.

We are not okay: Moral injury and a world on fire

American Journal of Bioethics, by Keisha S. Ray; 4/24

Moral injury gives name to a feeling that I have been having lately as I'm asked to show up to work and my life as if there aren't people who didn't wake up today because of violence, disease, and greed. I've celebrated holidays and my own professional accomplishments, but I can't escape that lump in my throat, that nagging feeling that this is all meaningless given the state of the world. After all, my principles won't feed the starving, shelter the bombed, free the captive, or care for the sick. I don't have the answer. I do not know what we are supposed to do about our perpetual moral injury. I do find some comfort in the origins of moral injury—calling out a broken system rather than broken individuals (Talbot and Dean Citation 2018). I am not broken; I am just a bioethicist and a human forced to work and live within a broken world.

"To prescribe or not to prescribe, that is the question": Perspectives on opioid prescribing for chronic, cancer-related pain from clinicians who treat pain in survivorship

Cancer, by Hailey W Bulls, Megan Hamm, Julia Wasilewski, Donna Olejniczak, Sarah G Bell, Jane M Liebschutz; 4/24

Opioid pain management in cancer survivorship is a complex and understudied topic. ... Participants suggested that opportunities to improve chronic cancer pain care include developing clear, systematic guidance for chronic cancer pain management, facilitating clinician communication and consultation, creating tailored survivorship care plans in partnership with patients, and developing accessible, evidence-based, complementary pain treatments.



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A process evaluation of a palliative care social work intervention for cancer patients in skilled nursing facilities

Journal of Palliative Medicine, by Sarguni Singh, MD; Ashley Dafoe, MA; Dana Lahoff, LCSW; Laurel Tropeano, LCSW; Bree Owens, LCSW; Erin Nielsen, LCSW; John Cagle, MSW, PhD; Hillary D. Lum, MD, PhD; Brooke Dorsey Holliman, PhD; Stacy Fischer, MD; 4/24

Assessing and Listening to Individual Goals and Needs (ALIGN) is a palliative care social work intervention that aims to improve delivery of goal-concordant care for hospitalized older adults with cancer discharged to skilled nursing facilities. ... ALIGN offers support in prognostic understanding, communication, and decision making during a pivotal time when patient and caregivers' goals have not been met and they are reassessing priorities.

Health trajectories of skilled nursing facility patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias: Evidence for practicing nurses

Journal of Gerontological Nursing, by Mark Toles, Cameron Ulmer, Jennifer Leeman; 4/24

Older adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) are at high risk for acute medical problems and their health trajectories frequently include hospital admission and care in a skilled nursing facility (SNF). Their health trajectories after SNF discharge are poorly understood. Therefore, in the current study, we sought to describe health trajectories and factors associated with

hospital read-missions for older adults with ADRD during the 30 days following SNF discharge.

Exploring parent experiences with early palliative care practices in the NICU

Advances in Neonatal Care, by Megan Quinn, Sheila Gephart, Janice Crist; 4/24
Parents' descriptions of decision-making were contextualized in gathering information to make a decision, the emotional impact of the decision, and influences on their decision-making. In experiences with care planning, parents described learning to advocate, having a spectator versus participant role, and experiencing care planning as communication. Key themes expressed regarding parental coping were exposure to trauma, survival mode, and a changing support network.



Changing the landscape of the neighborhood : The expanding role of the Pediatric Palliative Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing, by Nicole Sartor, Alice K Bass, Kayla Overstreet; 4/24

There is a dearth of information on the role of the pediatric palliative advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) reported in the literature, and yet, the role is expanding. Advances in technology and health care are helping children with medical complexity live longer, and the demand for pediatric palliative care is growing. ... The aim of this article was to describe the expanding role of the pediatric palliative APRN...

Addressing challenges with sedation in end-of-life care

Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, by Columba Thomas, MD; Yesne Alici, MD; William Breitbart, MD; Eduardo Bruera, MD; Liz Blackler, MBE, LCSW-R; Daniel P. Sulmasy, MD, PhD; 4/24

Unfortunately, little is known about actual sedation practices at the end of life in the United States. This may be due in part to a lack of conceptual clarity about sedation in end-of-life care. We argue that, until more is known about what sedation practices occur at the end of life, and how practices can be improved by

research and more specific guidelines, “palliative sedation” will remain more misunderstood and controversial than it might otherwise be.

Implementing a Palliative Care Junior Faculty Visiting Professor program: Pearls and pitfalls

American Journal of Hospice & Palliative Medicine, by Jennifer B Seaman, Teresa H Thomas, Risa L Wong, David I Lazris, Maria Belin, Yael Schenker; 4/24

Palliative Care (PC) is a small, relatively young interprofessional sub-specialty; hence mentorship for early-career research faculty is widely dispersed across schools and universities. We developed the Junior Visiting Professor Program (JVPP) to provide junior faculty in PC with opportunities to meet multidisciplinary PC researchers from other institutions and to advance their research through networking and presenting their work. We describe how we designed and implemented the program, and we report on the first cohort of participants.



The challenges of advance care planning for acute care registered nurses

Canadian Journal of Nursing Research, by Lori L Rietze, Kelli I Stajduhar, Mary Ellen Purkis, Denise Cloutier; 4/24

Nurses were challenged to meet multiple competing demands, leaving them to scramble to manage complex and critically ill acute care patients while also fulfilling organizational tasks aligned with funding metrics, accreditation, and strategic planning priorities. Such factors limited nurses' capacity to engage their patients in ACP. ... Acute care settings that align patient values and medical treatment need to foster ACP practices by revising organizational policies and processes to support this outcome, analyzing the tasks of healthcare providers to determine who might best address it, and budgeting how to support it with additional resources.

Today's Encouragement

Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution. ~Aristotle



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