



2009-2013 Connecticut Cancer Partnership Plan Palliative and Hospice Care Goal:
To ensure that high quality palliative and hospice care services are available and accessible to all Connecticut residents.

Implementation Project: *Caring for the Elderly at End of Life: An Interdisciplinary Approach*

Grantee: The Connecticut Coalition to Improve End-of-Life-Care

Project Goal: To increase the number of nurses and/or social workers trained in providing palliative and end-of-life care services for cancer patients and their families.

Project Description: The purpose of this project was to offer an End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) based Geriatric Curriculum Training Program to social workers, chaplains, administrators, nurses as well as other members of the interdisciplinary team to increase the knowledge and skills of health care professionals who provide palliative and end-of-life care to Connecticut citizens.

Topics from the breakout sessions provided at each conference included:

- Principles of Palliative Care
- Non Pain Symptom Management at the End of Life
- Communication With the Elderly Patient and Family
- Loss, Grief, and Bereavement
- Preparation for and Care at Time of Death
- Pain Assessment and Management
- Ethical Issues at End of Life
- Spiritual Conversations In End of Life
- Complementary Therapies for the Elderly at the End of Life

Results: A total of 135 professionals attended a conference. The first conference held on April 20, 2012 was attended by 77 people. The second conference was held on October 19, 2012 and was attended by 58 people. As shown in Table 1, overall participants reported that they were able to meet all of the objectives of the program, with little variation reported among participants that attended October or April 2012 conference.

Table 1: Participant Perceptions of the Caring for the Elderly at End of Life Educational Program (April 20, 2012, n=77; October 19, 2012 n=56)

To what extent are you able to achieve the following objectives?	Mean Score	
	April 20 th	October 19 th
1. Describe current trends in palliative and EOL Care	4.86	4.77
2. Discuss the role of interdisciplinary collaboration in improving EOL care for older persons.	4.70	4.59
3. Describe the methods for assessing and managing pain in older adults and their families.	4.81	4.66
4. List the effective approaches to communicating with older adults and their families.	4.61	4.67
5. Describe the grief process and ways to facilitate normal grief for all family members.	4.39	4.87
6. Describe the physical, psychological, social, and spiritual care needs and interventions for an imminently dying older adult and their family.	4.21	4.89
7. Describe interventions to prevent or palliate common symptoms experienced by older adults at end of life.	4.63	4.71
8. Discuss ethical issues and dilemmas that may arise in EOL/palliative care in geriatric care.	4.77	4.88
9. Discuss beliefs regarding death and dying held by four faith traditions.	4.57	5.00

Participants rated their agreement/disagreement of each statement with either 1= Strongly/Low Disagree to Strongly/High Agree = 5

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Implementation Project: ELNEC Geriatric Train the Trainer Two-Day Conference

Grantee: The Connecticut Coalition to Improve End-of-Life-Care

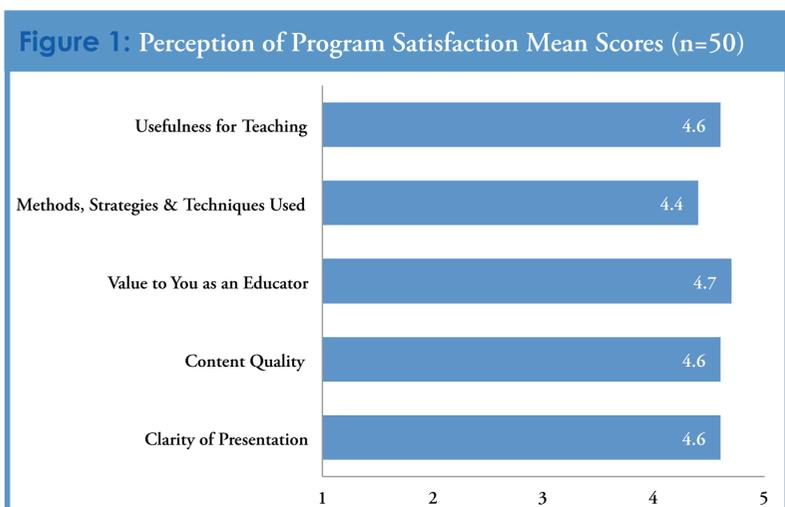
Project Goal: To increase the number of nurses and/or social workers trained in providing palliative and end-of-life care services for cancer patients and their families.

Project Description: The purpose of this project was to prepare Connecticut nurses, nurse educators, and nurse administrators to improve the quality of end-of-life care in geriatric facilities or other agencies responsible for the health care of the elderly using the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) based Geriatric Curriculum Training Program. The ELNEC- Geriatric curriculum was developed to meet the special needs of patients and families facing the end of life across various geriatric settings. The curriculum contains nine modules addressing critical aspects of end-of-life care for the elderly and the role of the nurse who cares for them.

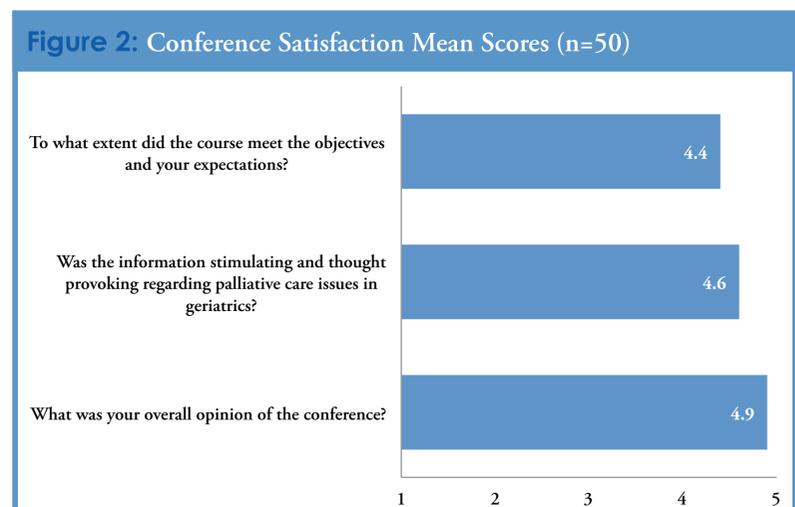
Module 1	Principles of Palliative Care
Module 2	Pain Assessment & Management
Module 3	Non-pain Symptoms at the End of Life
Module 4	Goals of Care & Ethical Issues at the End of Life
Module 5	Cultural and Spiritual Considerations in End-of-Life Care
Module 6	Communication
Module 7	Loss, Grief, and Bereavement
Module 8	Ensuring Quality End-of-Life Care
Module 9	Preparation for and Care at the Time of Death

A variety of teaching methods were employed, including review of case studies, round table discussions, role-plays and viewing of videos. The ELNEC-Geriatric Training Program employs a train-the trainer approach where participants are required to return to their institutions and disseminate end-of-life information through training courses and other professional development activities.

Results: Fifty professionals attended the two-day conference, which was offered in October 2011. Participants were asked to rate their satisfaction with the conference by completing a Conference Evaluation Form. As shown in Figures 1 and 2, overall, participants were extremely satisfied with the conference in terms of meeting the program objectives as well as quality of the program delivery.



Participants rated the overall program summary on a scale of 1=Lowest to 5=Highest



Participants rated satisfaction on a scale of 1=Poor to 5=Excellent



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Implementation Project: Palliative Care to Hospice Educational Program

Grantee: Regional Hospice of Western CT

Project Goal: To increase the number of workers trained in providing palliative and end-of-life care services for cancer patients and their families in the following settings: hospitals, VA facilities, outpatient pediatric facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and assisted living residences.

Project Description: Twenty Palliative Care to Hospice educational programs were provided as in-service educational opportunities in a variety of settings including a hospital, skilled nursing facilities, university classroom, and assisted living residences from 2011 to 2013. An instructional DVD, PowerPoint presentation, updated booklet and training materials were also provided to all participating facilities for continued use at in-service meetings, undergraduate training, and for new staff orientations.

Results: Participants were asked to complete a Satisfaction Form to indicate the extent to which they were satisfied with the program. A total of 136 participants completed a Satisfaction Form for analysis. As shown in Table 1, overall participants rated the program highly in all areas.

Table 1: Regional Hospice Mean Rating of Satisfaction with Program Speakers
 (n=136)

	Speaker's Knowledge of the Subject	Speaker's Organization	Speaker's Effectiveness	Speaker's Methods
Overall rating of all participants across programs	4.95	4.89	4.94	4.85

Participants rated speakers on the following scale: 1=Strongly Dissatisfied, 2=Dissatisfied, 3=Not Sure, 4=Satisfied, 5=Very Satisfied



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Implementation Project: Palliative Care Workshop

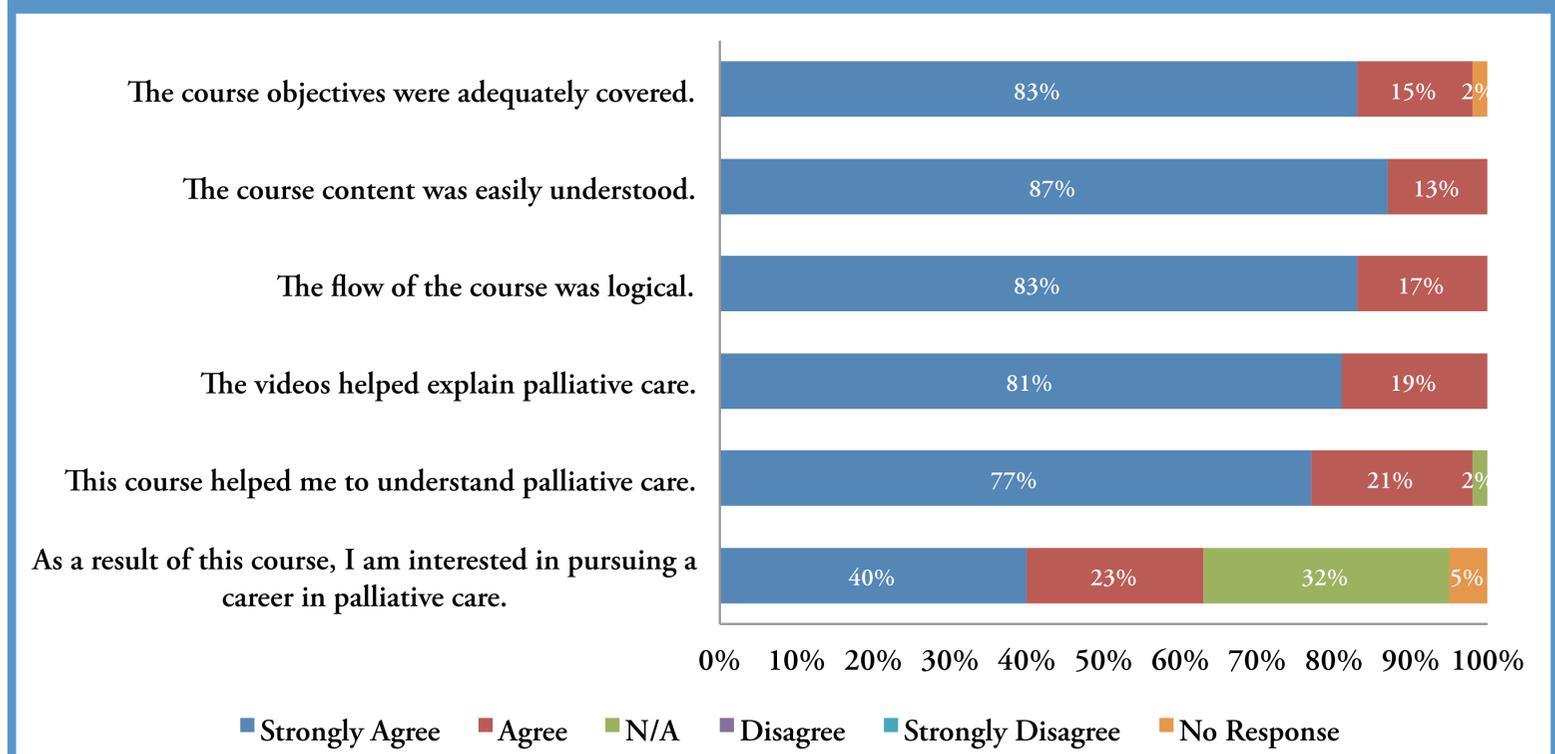
Grantee: Yale New Haven Health System for Healthcare Solutions

Project Goal: To increase the number of nurses and/or social workers trained in providing palliative and end-of-life care services for cancer patients and their families.

Project Description: Yale New Haven Health System for Healthcare Solutions developed a half-day seminar that provided information and instruction to nurses and social workers on the principles of palliative and end-of-life care for cancer patients and their families. The seminar discussed the principles of palliative and end-of-life care for cancer patients and their families as well as addressed how the application of palliative and end-of-life care principles by trained healthcare professionals can improve the proportion of cancer patients receiving effective pain management. The seminar explored the principles of palliative and end-of-life care as they influence the three domains (physical, psychosocial and spiritual) of a cancer patient's life.

Results: Two *Palliative Care Workshops* were held September 2012. Sixty-eight participants attended one of the workshops. A total of 53 participants completed a Satisfaction Form for analysis (78% response rate). As shown in Table 1, overall participants rated the program highly in all areas.

Figure 1: Participant Satisfaction (n=53)



Participants rated speakers on the following scale: 1=Strongly Dissatisfied, 2=Dissatisfied, 3=Not Sure, 4=Satisfied, 5=Very Satisfied

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