

Palliative Medicine Curriculum

Site: UCIMC

Faculty:

Alpesh Amin, M.D.

Solomon Liao, M.D.

Goal: For the housestaff to obtain the basic skills necessary, as a primary care physician, to care for patients at the end of life.

Objectives:

- 1) To learn the essentials of pain and symptom management at the end of life.
- 2) To learn how to work with a hospice multidisciplinary team.
- 3) To understand what Medicare hospice benefit covers and its regulations.
- 4) To learn how to evaluate bereavement risks and how to provide bereavement support.
- 5) To appreciate some of the ethical and legal complexities of end-of-life care.

Teaching Method:

- 1) Direct patient care through housecalls; acting as a primary care physician under the supervision of a UCI faculty.
- 2) Communication (both verbal and written) with the hospice team, including the medical director.
- 3) Case vignettes – see attached schedule.
- 4) Core curriculum text developed by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, 1999.
- 5) Feedback from family and the hospice team.
- 6) An artistic or prose expression from the resident on their hospice experience.