



Geriatric-Competent Care: Palliative Care for Older Adults Dually-Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid

Continuing Education (CE) Activity Information & Instructions *(Enduring Activity #: WE-E12052018-MMCO)*

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Activity Information

Activity Description

Older adults who are in the advanced stage of an illness or nearing the end of life may experience physical and emotional distress, fragmented care delivery, and barriers to effective communication. Family caregivers and other individuals providing support may experience related challenges.[1] Dually-eligible older adults, in particular, are more likely to experience frequent hospitalizations and facility-based long-term care at the end of life than other beneficiary groups.[2] Palliative care aims to address physical, spiritual, social, and emotional needs; coordinate care delivery; improve quality of life; optimize function; and assist with decision-making for individuals living with a serious illness and their families. Palliative care may also reduce hospital readmissions and the use of facility-based long-term care by offering community-based services that are tailored to the individual.[3]

This webinar shares strategies for skillful communication, recognition, and response to needs of beneficiaries and their families throughout the course of serious illness, and engagement of palliative care consultants as an added layer of support. Timely recognition of hospice eligibility and referral in the months before death may improve quality of life and reduce reliance on emergency departments and hospitals for crisis management. The speakers also help the audience recognize the signs of the active dying process to ensure that thoughtful expert care is available during this vulnerable time.

Please click below to access the recorded webinar:

https://resourcesforintegratedcare.com/GeriatricCompetentCare/2018_GCC_Webinar/Palliative_Care.

[1] Morrison, R.S. Research priorities in geriatric palliative care. *J Palliat Med*. 2013; 16: 726–729.

[2] Bynum, J. P. W., Austin, A., Carmichael, D., & Meara, E. (2017). High-Cost Dual-Eligibles' Service Use Demonstrates Need For Supportive And Palliative Models Of Care. *Health Affairs (Project Hope)*, 36(7), 1309–1317.

[3] Ibid.

Target Audience

This activity is designed for all health care professionals.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Recognize barriers and identify strategies for providing optimal care to older adults dually-eligible for Medicare and Medicaid with serious illness
- Define and differentiate palliative care and hospice care
- Identify distressing symptoms associated with serious illness and promising practices to alleviate these symptoms
- Recognize effective strategies to improve communication and care planning with older adults with serious illness, their families, and caregivers

Participation

Watch the recorded webinar linked to in the *Activity Description* section of this document, and access and complete the assessment and evaluation, per the *Instructions for Continuing Education Credit*, at the end of this document.

Speaker Bios & Disclosures (alphabetical by last name)

No one in a position to control the content of this activity has anything to disclose. All planners and developers of this activity have signed a disclosure statement indicating any relevant financial interests. This activity was developed without commercial support.

Karen Blair, BSN, RN, presenter, is the palliative Care Coordinator for Commonwealth Care Alliance, a healthcare organization that offers two health plans for dually-eligible individuals: Senior Care Options (SCO) Dual-Eligible Special Needs Plan (D-SNP) for adults age 65 and over and OneCare Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP) for adults age 21 through 64. The SCO serves over 10,000 dually-eligible members age 65 and older across Massachusetts. Ms. Blair has worked for over 40 years in community health and hospice care in a variety of roles including direct care, on call, management, quality and education. She has presented for the hospice and palliative care federation of Massachusetts, Alzheimer's Association.

Ms. Blair earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Curry College.

Isaac Bromberg, MD, presenter, is a Palliative Care Specialist serving as the Medical Director of the Clinical Group-West and the Medical Director of the Palliative Care at Commonwealth Care Alliance. Dr. Bromberg is a board certified in emergency medicine, hospice, and palliative medicine. He worked in a community emergency department for eight years before completing a Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship at Johns Hopkins University and the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System (VAMHCS) in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Bromberg has been involved with providing palliative care for dually-eligible seniors for the past five years. His experience includes working with an inpatient palliative care service, a home-based palliative model at Commonwealth Care Alliance, and a D-SNP program that serves over 10,000 dually-eligible seniors in Massachusetts.

Dr. Bromberg earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Albany Medical College.

Diane E. Meier, MD, presenter, is the Director of the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC), a national organization devoted to increasing the number and quality of palliative care programs in the United States. Under her leadership, the number of palliative care programs in U.S. hospitals has more than tripled in the last 10 years. Dr. Meier is also a Professor of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine and a Gaisman Professor of Medical Ethics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City. She was a Health and Aging Policy Fellow in Washington, DC from 2009 through 2010. Dr. Meier's awards include a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 2008, HealthLeaders recognition as one of 20 Americans who make health care better in 2010, the American Cancer Society's 2012 Medal of Honor for Cancer Control in recognition of her pioneering leadership of the effort to bring palliative care into mainstream medicine, and the National Academy of Medicine's Gustav O. Lienhard Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in improving personal health care in the United States in 2017.

Dr. Meier earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Northwestern University School of Medicine.

Gregg Warshaw, MD, developer/planner, is an Academic Family Physician and Geriatrician. He is an advocate for improving the training of physicians and other professionals who care for older adults. Dr. Warshaw is a Clinical Professor of Family, Geriatric, and Internal Medicine at the

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. He served as the Director of the Geriatric Medicine Program at the University of Cincinnati (UC) College of Medicine from 1987 through 2015. Dr. Warshaw joined the UC faculty after serving four years as an Assistant Professor and serving as the Director of the Geriatric Medicine Program in the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Duke University. Dr. Warshaw served as the Director of the Christ Hospital and the University of Cincinnati Geriatric Medicine Fellowship and Training Program for Physicians from 1986 through 2013. He served as the Medical Director of Maple Knoll Village, a continuing care retirement community in Springdale, Ohio from 1985 through 2014. In addition, he served as a Past President of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) and the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs (ADGAP).

Dr. Warshaw's academic interests include geriatric medicine education, preventive health care for the older adult, the clinical care of Alzheimer's disease, and the long-term care and acute care interface. He directed the AGS and the ADGAP Geriatric Medicine Physician Workforce Study from 2001 through 2012. He has authored more than 100 articles and book chapters related to geriatric medicine and gerontology. He has regularly served as an Advisor to Federal agencies, foundations, and professional organizations. Dr. Warshaw has given numerous lectures and presentations related to aging. He served as an Editor of the Sixth Edition of the popular geriatric medicine textbook, *Primary Care Geriatrics*.

Dr. Warshaw earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Michigan and completed his Residency and Fellowship at Duke University, the University of North Carolina, and Edinburgh University in Scotland.

Nancy L. Wilson, MSW, MA, developer/planner, is a Gerontological Social Worker with over 40 years of experience caring for older people and families. Ms. Wilson is currently serving as an Associate Professor of Medicine and Geriatrics for the Baylor College of Medicine. She has been a Faculty Member at the Baylor College of Medicine for over 35 years, teaching and conducting research in the field of aging. Her previous experience includes serving as the Director of the Texas Project for Elders, Associate Director for the Texas Consortium of Geriatric Education Center, and the Clinical Instructor of Gerontology for the University of Texas School of Nursing.

Ms. Wilson has extensive academic and clinical experience in geriatrics, home-based, and community-based services. She has extensive experience in interdisciplinary training for all levels of trainees and practitioners in the medicine, social work, nursing and pharmacy fields. She has conducted webinars, face-to-face continuing education training events to over 200 audiences, and classroom training related to social work, nursing, and medicine. In addition, Ms. Wilson helped plan and develop the continuing education materials for this webinar.

Ms. Wilson earned a Master of Arts degree in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago.

Continuing Education Credit Information

Continuing Education Credit

International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is authorized by IACET to offer

0.2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for this activity. CEU will be awarded to participants who meet all criteria for successful completion of this educational activity. CEU credit for this course expires at midnight on December 5, 2019.

Accreditation Statements

[Please click here for accreditation statements.](#)

Instructions for Continuing Education Credit

The Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) recently upgraded its Learning Management System (LMS).
If you were already registered in the former MLN Learning Management System (LMS), you do not need to create a new login or password. However, the appearance of the system and instructions for registering, logging-in, accessing courses, and obtaining certificate information have all changed.
For more information on the new LMS, please visit <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/LMPOS-FAQs-Booklet-ICN909182.pdf>.

Learning Management System (LMS) Instructions

In order to receive continuing education credit for this enduring activity, you must pass the session post-assessment and complete the evaluation. The continuing education post-assessments and evaluations are being administered through the Medicare Learning Network®.

The post-assessment will be available on the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) Learning Management System (LMS). Participants will need to login or register, to access the post-assessment.

Registering To Take a Post-Assessment

If you have previously taken Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) web-based training (WBT) courses, you may use the login ID and password you created for those courses. If you are a new user, you will need to register.

To register (if you do NOT have an account):

- 1. Go to the LMS Homepage <https://learner.mlnlms.com>
- 2. Click on "Create Account"
- 3. Enter information for all the required fields (with the red asterisks) and click "Create"

***NOTE:** When you get to the 'Organization' field, click on Select. From the 'Select Organizations' screen, leave the 'Find Organization' field blank and click Search. Select 'CMS-MLN Learners Domain - Organization' and click Save.

Please add MLN@cms.hhs.gov to your address book to prevent MLN communication from going into your spam folder.

To login (if you already have an account):

1. Go to the LMS Homepage <https://learner.mlnlms.com>
2. Enter your login ID and password and click on “Log In”

Finding the Post-Assessment:

1. Go to the LMS Homepage <https://learner.mlnlms.com>
2. Enter your login ID and password and click on “Log In”
3. Click on “Training Catalog” in the menu beneath the MLN logo
4. Enter “**Geriatric-Competent Care: Palliative Care for Older Adults Dually-Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid**” in the “search for” box and click "search"
5. Click on the title
6. Click “Enroll”
7. Click “Access Item”
8. Scroll down on the page and click on the link titled “Post-Assessment”
9. Click “Open Item”
10. A new window will open. Click “Post-Assessment” in this new window for it to display
11. Complete the assessment and click “close”
12. Click the grey and white “x” in the upper right-hand corner to close the window
13. Click “OK” when prompted about closing the window

Accessing Your Transcript and Certificate

To complete the course and get your certificate, you must complete the course evaluation.

[Please click here for instructions for completing the evaluation and accessing your transcript and certificate.](#)

For questions regarding continuing education credit contact CMSCE@cms.hhs.gov via email.

Hardware/Software Requirements

[Please click here for hardware and software requirements.](#)

CMSCE Program Policies

[Please click here for CMSCE Program Policies.](#)

CMS Privacy Policy

[Please click here for CMS’ Privacy Policy.](#)

Help

For questions regarding the content of this activity, or technical assistance with the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) Learning Management System (LMS), your assessment, or certificate, contact CMSCE at CMSCE@cms.hhs.gov via email.