

European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care

The majority of healthcare professionals working in hospitals and the community look after patients with palliative care needs on a regular basis.

The European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care (ECEPC) is aimed at helping those professionals consolidate and develop their palliative care confidence and expertise. The course is also designed to meet the needs of healthcare professionals new to specialist palliative care services who wish to establish a strong foundation of knowledge on which to build specialist knowledge and skills.

The course was first developed at Princess Alice Hospice in 2001. It is now offered at a range of sites both nationally and internationally.

The course runs twice a year and the fee is £450. For the date of the next course please see our website <http://www.pah.org.uk/training/courses/>

Healthcare professionals who may wish to access the course include medical and nursing staff, therapists and paramedics.



Information for Prospective Candidates

Course information

Candidates are invited to an optional introductory evening at their local site.

Course resources

Candidates will receive the Course Handbook containing the core text material. Candidates will also have access to the Princess Alice Hospice virtual learning environment –learningzone.pah.org.uk and be allocated a facilitator who will support them through their portfolio submission. The facilitators are experienced practitioners in specialist palliative care, who will be available by email or telephone.

Assessment

Candidates undertake three different forms of assessment; a pass is required in each of the sections.

Portfolio - each candidate will complete a portfolio, involving critical reflection, based on a patient they have cared for with palliative care needs. It will include the effect it had on both a personal and professional level. The portfolio should be supported by literature and demonstrate how the learning will influence future care. It will be 2,500 words.

Written examination - There will be a one hour examination, which will include short true / false questions covering the principles of palliative care explored in the Course Handbook. There will be an additional short written paper of four questions on common opioid dose conversions.

Practical / oral assessment - The final element will be a short oral assessment exploring the knowledge and skills developed during the course.

How long is the course?

This is an eight-week course which can be carried out at a distance from the chosen site. Please note, however, that attendance at the local site assessment day is mandatory. It is recommended you carry out around 50-hours personal study, but this will vary depending on previous experience of palliative care.

Where does the course run?

The course is centrally co-ordinated by Princess Alice Hospice in Esher. However it is run at a number of different sites including Birmingham, Berkhamsted, Malta, Northern Ireland, Leeds, Aberdeen and Eire.

To book a place or for more information contact:

01372 461858 or
01372 461845
europeancertificate@pah.org.uk

On successful completion of the assessments candidates will be awarded the Princess Alice Hospice European Certificate in Essential Palliative Care.