



COALITION *for*
COMPASSIONATE CARE
of CALIFORNIA

A statewide resource on end-of-life issues

UPDATE

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CCCC News

Save the Date!

CCCC's 2nd Annual Conference and Membership Meeting

Visions: New Directions for Compassionate Care

Join healthcare leaders from across the state to learn the latest on improving end-of-life care across the continuum.

Date: April 19

Location: Sheraton Grand, Sacramento

Register now for early bird rates!

CCCC Website Now ADA Compliant

Thanks to a donation from [Uptown Studios](#), the [CCCC website](#) is now compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines. Thank you Uptown Studios!

Become a CCCC Member

For over 10 years, CCCC has brought people together to work to improve end-of-life care in California. We need your support in 2010!

Become an [official member](#) of CCCC. Members receive reduced rates for CCCC events and trainings.

CARE Recommendations

The CARE (Compassion and Respect toward the End of Life) Recommendations: Steps and Tools to Redefine Healing and Hope in Nursing Homes - a joint project with the California Culture Change

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www.finalchoices.org
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Coalition - are in the final design phase and will be available soon. Visit [CCCC's website](#) for more information.

POLST Train-the-Trainer Course in Southern CA

POLST: It Starts with a Conversation, CCCC's two-day train-the-trainer course provides opportunities for attendees to develop skills for facilitating meaningful conversations with patients and their families about POLST and goals of care. Space is limited. Sign up early!

Dates: April 29-30

Location: Alzheimer's Association Orange County Chapter, Irvine

Cost: \$169 for CCCC members; \$199 for non-members.

Resources

Hospice Publication for African-Americans

"Questions & Answers About Hospice for You or a Loved One," produced by Partners in Care, presents real life stories of African-Americans and their experiences with hospice. For a limited time, these brochures will be available free of charge to organizations serving seriously-ill older adults. To download a copy, [click here](#). Contact [Sandy Atkins](#) for more information.

Billing

Medicare Eliminates Consultation Codes

As of January 1, 2010, new rules came into effect for Medicare billing that include elimination of the consultation code. Visit the [Center to Advance Palliative Care](#) web site for more information.

Data and Research

One Million+ Enrolled in Hospice

Over one million people were enrolled in hospice provide by over 3,300 hospices in 2008, according to the [Medicare Payment Advisory Commission](#). Medicare spent more than \$11 billion on hospice. While long stays have grown longer, short stays remain virtually unchanged.

Doctors Delay End-of-Life Conversations

A study [published online in the journal *Cancer*](#) in January reveals that less than half of physicians would discuss end-of-life topics like resuscitation, hospice care, or where a patient wished to die, if the patient was still feeling well. Over 4,000 physicians completed the survey, and about 60% were non-cancer specialists.

Palliative Care in Nursing Homes

The January 2010 issue of *Health Affairs* contains two articles on palliative care and end-of-life care in nursing homes: "[Raising the Standard: Palliative Care in Nursing Homes](#)" and "[A New Medicare End-of-Life Benefit for Nursing Home Residents](#)."

physicians named as recipients of the first [Hastings Center Cunniff-Dixon Physician Awards](#).

Education

Culture Change Coalition Annual Conference

Building Community, Tearing Down Walls: Changing the Environmental Culture

A [conference](#) designed for nursing home administrators, clinical staff and frontline caregivers.

Sponsor: California Culture Change Coalition

Dates/Locations: March 2 - Crowne Plaza SF Peninsula, Foster City

March 4 - Crowne Plaza Anaheim Resort, Garden Grove

Cost: Early bird rates - \$225 per person or \$189 per person for two or more from the same facility

The Palliative Patient: Mind, Body, Spirit

A one-day conference to explore depression, cultural conflicts, and spiritual care in palliative medicine.

Sponsor: Inland Empire Palliative Care Coalition

Date: March 20, 2010, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Location: Mission Inn, Riverside, CA

Cost: \$75 for IEPCC members, \$100 others

Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register, call Peggy at Riverside County Medical Association - 951.686.3342, ext 306.

Incorporating Palliative Care Services into Long Term Care Facilities

An [audio conference](#) that will explore several models for increasing access to palliative care within long term care settings and address the barriers that currently exist.

Sponsor: Center to Advance Palliative Care

Date: March 25, 10:30 - 11:30am

Cost: one line & CD-ROM - \$99

Spirituality: A Dimension of Quality Geriatric and Palliative Care

A [one-day program](#) in conjunction with the Aging in America Conference.

Sponsor: The Archstone Foundation

Date: March 17

Location: Chicago, IL

Cost: \$15. Pre-registration is required and attendees must be registered for the Aging in America Conference

Leadership & Management in Geriatrics

An intensive, highly interactive [conference](#) for healthcare professionals working in geriatric settings who wish to enhance their leadership and management skills.

Sponsor: UCLA Academic Geriatric Resource Center

Date: April 9-10

Location: Long Beach

Cost: \$650, if registered by February 26

ELNEC Geriatric Train-the-Trainer Course

Provides nurses with essential training in end-of-life/palliative care for geriatric patients, especially those in nursing homes.

Sponsor: City of Hope

Date: April 29-30

Location: Pasadena

Cost: Free for the first 100 eligible California nurses

Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Grief and Loss

This webinar explores lessons learned, emerging trends, and how hospices and other organizations can use bereavement camps and other strategies to help grieving children.

Sponsor: Hospice Foundation of America

Next webinar: Bereaved Children and Adolescents - Lessons from Research

Date: April 14, 10:00 - 11:30am

Cost: Organization: \$100. Individual: \$35

Newsletters are available on the CCCC Website (www.finalchoices.org) in PDF format for anyone who is having trouble reading this email version.

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