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CCCC Activities

Recommendations on End-of-Life Care in Nursing Homes to be Revised

CCCC has received a grant from the California HealthCare Foundation to revise the *ECHO Recommendations* on end-of-life care in nursing homes. The *Recommendations*, which were originally published in 2000, will be revised to reflect current nursing home policies and practices, incorporate culture change philosophy, and address practical application of the principles.

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Thinking Ahead On-Line

The Thinking Ahead workbook and DVD can now be downloaded at www.finalchoices.org. Thinking Ahead materials were designed by and for persons with developmental disabilities to enable them to stay in control of their lives through the very end.

[Materials](#) are written in plain language and available in English, Spanish, and Chinese.

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POLST Standardized Curriculum in Development

CCCC is developing a standardized curriculum on how to have the POLST conversation. The curriculum is now in the piloting phase. Watch for the POLST Update as more information becomes available.

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Pending State Legislation

AB 950 (Hernandez) – Hospice Facilities

[This bill](#) would allow hospices to operate in-patient facilities under their hospice licensure. Currently, in-patient hospice facilities must be dually licensed as hospice and another licensure, such as skilled nursing, congregate living health facility, or residential care facility.

Sponsor: CA Hospice and Palliative Care Association

Status: Passed out of Assembly Health Committee, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

For more information, including the bill text, [click here](#).

Social Workers

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People on the Move

Sandy Chen Stokes Receives Lane Adams Award

The American Cancer Society has selected Sandy Chen Stokes, Executive Director, Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care, as recipient of the [2009 Lane Adams Quality of Life Award](#).

The award recognizes excellence in caregiving for those who innovatively and consistently provide outstanding, compassionate care to cancer patients and their families.

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Resources

Pain Resource Nurse Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to assist clinicians and educators to implement a *Pain Resource Nurse Program* in hospital settings as a means of improving the quality of pain management.

The toolkit is available from the [Resource Center of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives](#) for \$100 plus shipping & handling.

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Educational Seminars

Implementing POLST in Your Nursing Home

This half-day seminar for administrators, physicians and ancillary healthcare providers will review model policies and procedures and highlight experiences of facilities that have already implemented POLST.

Sponsors: CALTCM & CCCC

Date: July 9, 2009, in the afternoon

Location: Omni Los Angeles Hotel, Los Angeles

Cost: \$50 for members & \$75 for non-members

For more information, please contact Jolene Fassbinder at (310)312-0518 or jfassbinder@mednet.ucla.edu.

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Alzheimer's and End-of-Life Care

The Alzheimer's Association Quality Care Campaign will be holding workshops on enhancing quality of life for Alzheimer's patients and their families at life's end. Workshops will be held throughout California.

Sponsors: Alzheimer's Association of California & CCCC

Dates & Locations: Visit [Alzheimer's Association](#) for details

Cost: \$59

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Seminar for Faith Leaders

The [Partners in Caring seminar](#) helps faith leaders gain greater confidence in supporting people at life's end. Faculty include physicians, other health professionals and faith leaders

Sponsors: Compassionate Care Alliance of Sacramento & Center for Healthcare Decisions

Date: June 3 from 8:30am - 4:30pm

Location: Sierra Health Foundation, 1321 Garden Highway, Sacramento

Cost: \$60

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Determination of Decision-Making Capacity

Experts in geriatrics, psychology and elder abuse will demonstrate clinical evaluations of decision-making capacity, completion of the declaration form and use of an interpreter.

Sponsor: UC Irvine School of Medicine & California Geriatric Education Center

Date: June 5, 2009, from 8am – 5pm

Location: 1017 W Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana

Cost: \$90 - \$120 (includes breakfast, lunch & materials)

For more information [click here](#).

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Patient Advocacy

[The ACE Project](#) seeks to enhance the advocacy and leadership skills of competitively-selected psychologists, social workers and spiritual care professionals through an innovative trans-disciplinary educational experience. Substantial financial assistance is available.

Sponsor: City of Hope

Dates: October 13-16, 2009

Location: Pasadena, CA

Application deadline: June 20

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Pain Management & Palliative Care for Social Workers

Featured speaker: Mercedes Bern-Klug, MSW, MA, Assistant Professor, University of Iowa, School of Social Work Aging Studies Program.

Sponsor: Southern California Cancer Pain Initiative & City of Hope

Date: July 31, 2009

Location: City of Hope, Duarte

Cost: \$125 by July 10 (5 CEUs)

For more information, [click here](#).

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Hospice & Palliative Care in Developing Countries

An educational opportunity for healthcare professionals interested in serving in developing countries.

Sponsor: UCSF & Hinds Hospice

Dates: September 18-19, 2009

Location: UCSF Fresno Auditorium, Fresno

For more information, please contact Nancy Hinds at (559) 320-0308 or nancy@hindshospice.org.

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Bridging the Gaps in Pain Care

The Alliance of State Pain Initiatives is holding its 20th annual meeting in California.

Sponsors: Alliance of State Pain Initiatives, Northern CA Pain Initiative, et al

Dates: October 23-25, 2009

Location: Hyatt Regency, San Francisco

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CALTCM Annual Meeting

This two-day conference will highlight critical strategies and provide techniques and tools to improve the quality of nursing home care.

Sponsor: California Association of Long Term Care Medicine

Date: July 10-12, 2009

Location: Omni Los Angeles Hotel, LA

For more information, please contact Brian Manning at (310)312-0518 or bmanning@caltcm.org.

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Audio Conference

Part B Billing & Relative Value Units

Featured speakers, Lynn Hill Spragens, MBA and Julie Pipke, CPC, will provide guidance on how to improve processes to maximize billing, and better understand and minimize denials. This audio conference will also provide an introduction to the use of Relative Value Units (RVU) to evaluate and manage workloads.

Sponsor: Center to Advance Palliative Care

Date: June 11, 2009, from 10:30-11:30am

Cost: \$99 (one phone line plus audio conference CD-ROM)

For more information, [click here](#).

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