### Family Medicine: FAP-FAP460 - Hospice Care of the Terminally Ill

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective/Selective/Non-clinical</th>
<th>Elective</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites:</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Restriction days:</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>FAP 460 Hospice Care of the Terminally Ill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Mark Goodman, M.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person</td>
<td>Debbie Badura (<a href="mailto:dbadura@creighton.edu">dbadura@creighton.edu</a>) CUMC, Suite 6720 Phone: 280-4542 Fax: 280-5165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Length of Course</td>
<td>4 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequency of Presentation</td>
<td>Continuously except December rotation (must register more than 30 days in advance of rotation start date)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximum Number of Students</td>
<td>2</td>
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**Course Description**

This course is an elective, which familiarizes students with hospice care. This will be accomplished by students evaluating patients for control of symptoms such as pain, nausea, vomiting, dehydration, skin care, dyspnea, constipation, cough, and other physical problems associated with the terminally ill. In addition, assessment for the emotional and spiritual well-being of the patient and care-giver will be taught. The student will be involved with the patient by home visits, participation in multi-disciplinary meetings held at the Alegent Hospice office, course readings, and individual teaching sessions with the Course Director.

**Course Objectives**

To integrate the informal data gained from hospice care patients to control their symptoms, treat their physical problems, assess their emotional and spiritual well-being, and provide humanistic and ethical care for the terminally ill patient.

Competencies to be mastered:

1. Complete a physical assessment of a terminally ill patient and make recommendations for symptom management as guided by the plan of care.
2. Develop communication skills with the terminally ill patient, their families, and attending physician.
3. Understand basic concepts of externalization in relation to the grieving process.
4. Understand more completely the hospice system of care in relation to home healthcare, the primary care physician, and associated ancillary services.
5. Understand the principles of pain management and nausea control in hospice patients.
6. Understand the role of Medicare funding in hospice care.

**Evaluation**

1. The attending staff physician and other hospice staff will complete the Elective Evaluation Report on the student.
2. Take a written test (100 points) given by the Course Director (passing grade is 70%).
3. An Honors grade will be given to the student who receives a grade of Honors from their preceptor in all categories.
**FAP-FAP460 continued. . .**

| Evaluation cont. | evaluated on the Student Evaluation Report for Electives, a grade of 90% on the written test, and has completed a special project on hospice care. |
| Schedule | 1. Read the book “Dying Well” and other required readings.  
2. Read and understand the primer on the symptom control of the hospice patient.  
3. Attend all daily home visits (Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm) with the hospice nurse, social worker, chaplain, and hospice physician.  
4. Attend weekly multi-disciplinary meetings at the Alegent Hospice office (72nd and Spring).  
5. Complete an exit interview with the preceptor and complete the course online evaluation.  
6. Prepare a special project of the student’s choice on a hospice topic for extra credit (optional).  
7. Carry a beeper for after-hours or weekend call to attend a dying patient (optional). |

added to course catalogue

revised/modified/updated