

End of Life Care in the US: Ethics, Value, and Equity

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Background

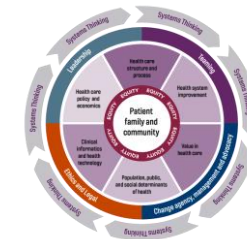
- End of life (EOL) care is an important topic in undergraduate medical education that incorporates many if not all aspects of Health System Science (HSS): Ethics/legal, Equity, Value, Teaming, patient centered care.¹
- EOL as an educational topic is often difficult to place in traditional medical school curriculum, it therefore important to create an opportunity for students to gather knowledge and skills to care for patients at EOL.
- In the VTCOM HSSIP we have created an EOL System Session for third year medical students to include topics relevant to the care of patients who are chronically ill and nearing EOL

Curricular/Session Learning Objectives

1. Describe End-of-Life care in the United States
2. Identify the differences between palliative medicine and hospice care
3. Examine ethical and legal challenges providers face caring for patient's at EOL
4. Recognize how EOL pertains to Value in Healthcare
5. Discuss equity of care at EOL

Curricular/Session Learning Outcomes

- Students will develop basic knowledge of EOL care in the US including differences between hospice and palliative medicine.
- Students will be able to critically examine how ethics and law impact care at EOL, explore healthcare value at EOL, and discuss issues in equity.



Curricular/Session Elements

Main Didactic - Overview of EOL care in the US. Palliative medicine vs Hospice

Breakout Session 1

Breakout Session 2

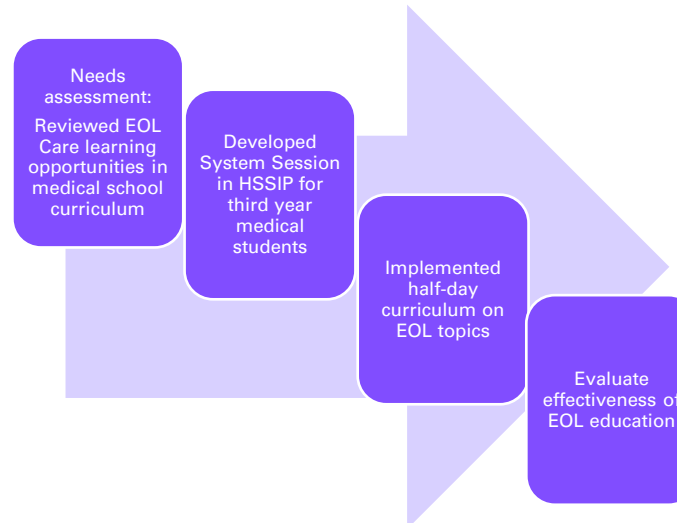
Breakout Session 3

Ethical/Legal aspects of EOL care

Value in Healthcare at EOL

Equity at EOL

Methods



Next Steps

- Create an evaluation tool to determine effectiveness of EOL education as a System Session.
- Continue to create and implement health systems science curricular content based on EOL within Clinical Clerkship didactics and health systems science sessions to further enhance learning of EOL care issues.

References

1. Skochelak SE, Hammoud MM, Lomis KD, Borkan JM, Gonzalo JD, Lawson LE, Starr SR, Eds. Health Systems Science. 2nd Ed. Philadelphia, PA: AMA Education Consortium; 2021