

Study program: Integrated Academic Studies in Medicine			
Course title: Palliative Medicine			
Teacher: Vesna S. Turkulov, Milica K. Medić Stojanoska, Mina M. Cvjetković Bošnjak, Dragana T. Milutinović, Vojislava V. Bugarski Ignjatović, Matilda A. Vojnović, Anna S. Uram Benka, Zorica Gajinov			
Course status: elective			
ECTS Credits: 3			
Condition: -			
Course aim The goal of this course is to introduce philosophy and practice of palliative care, provide knowledge and skills necessary for effective and compassionate participation in palliative care.			
Expected outcome of the course: Through theoretical classes students should master basic knowledge in the affirmation of life and conception of death as normal processes, basic characteristics of pain management, psychosocial and spiritual aspects of palliative care and support to patients' families, during the period of disease, death, and mourning. Special attention is given to the ethical and legal issues related to helping people suffering from incurable diseases. Also, students acquire knowledge on communication, teamwork and develop self-awareness. Through practice, students should master history taking in palliative medicine, as well as physical examination of patients, treatment, care and support to patients suffering from incurable diseases. Through essays and case studies, students will discuss different categories of patients (malignant patients, the elderly, children, patients with dementia, etc.) and design therapy programs for each patient individually.			
Course description <i>Theoretical education</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Philosophy and practice of palliative care 2. Basic principles of symptom control and pulmonary symptoms 3. Pain assessment and control 4. Neuropsychiatric symptoms 5. Gastrointestinal symptoms (including nausea, vomiting, anorexia, constipation, and diarrhea) 6. Skin and oral cavity care and lymphedema control 7. Care in the last hours of life 8. Psychological problems and their management 9. Loss of a loved ones, grief and mourning 10. Spiritual care 11. Ethical and legal issues 12. Communication skills 13. Communication in specific situations, for example breaking bad news 14. Teamwork and self-awareness <i>Practical education</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. History taking in palliative medicine 2. Demonstration of a complete physical examination 3. Case presentations and discussions focused on specific issues related to children and the elderly 4. Case presentations and discussions focused on issues related to various groups of diseases 5. Case presentations and discussions focused on complex issues including emergencies in palliative care. 			
Literature <i>Compulsory</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watson M, Lucas C, Hoy A, Wells J. Oxford Handbook of Palliative Care (2nd Edition). Oxford Medical Handbooks, 2009. 			
Number of active classes		Theoretical classes: 15	Practical classes: 30
Teaching methods: lectures, practice, essays			
Student activity assessment (maximally 100 points)			
Pre-exam activities	points	Final exam	points

Lectures	15	Written	60
Practices	15	Oral	
Colloquium			
Essay	10		