



# International Palliative Care Elective Novel Curriculum

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## BACKGROUND

- There are too few palliative care providers trained for resource limited settings
- International rotations positively impact learners
- International palliative care electives (IPCE) are scarce
- CU's fellowships do not provide education on practicing internationally
- The CU Palliative care team has a relationship with a palliative care program in Uganda

## OBJECTIVES

- Conduct a needs assessment to gauge interest in an IPCE
- Create IPCE curriculum



## METHODS

### Survey:

- Assess current and past fellows' interest in IPCE and comfort practicing internationally
- 49 fellows identified from the traditional and community-based fellowships at CU
- 38 surveys sent
- Excluded: a fellow who did not complete the program, this author, those whose emails were unknown

### Curriculum design including immersive experience abroad:

- Goal: develop the knowledge and skills needed to practice palliative care in resource limited settings
- Developed through interviews with Global Palliative Education Collaborative co-founder and general global health resources

## SURVEY RESULTS

- 16 (42%) responses
- 13 surveys from the traditional CU program and 3 from the community-based fellowship
- 83% of current fellows expressed interest in an IPCE
- 67% of alumni would have pursued an IPCE
- 31% said an IPCE would have influenced their fellowship choice
- 75% said they were either extremely or somewhat uncomfortable practicing internationally



Interest in ICPE Among Current Fellows



■ Yes ■ No ■ NA

Comfort Level Practicing International Palliative Care



■ Extremely Uncomfortable ■ Somewhat Uncomfortable  
 ■ Somewhat Comfortable ■ Extremely Comfortable

## RESULTS: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- Global Health Ethics
- Global Palliative Care 101
- SugarPREP Simulation Cases
- Ugandan Cultural Background
- Uganda's health care system and state of palliative care
- Global Opportunities for Palliative Care
- Opioid Access and policies and Essential Medicines
- Moral Resiliency
- Fellows will spend 4 weeks in Mbale, Uganda
  - Fellows will lecture on at least one topic determined by the team's needs
  - Fellows will divide their time between home visits and visiting JOY Hospice
- Upon their return, fellows will present a palliative care grand rounds on their experience
- Fellows will engage in a reflective writing exercise
- Debrief sessions during and after fellows' experience abroad

## CONCLUSIONS

- There is a need for and interest in IPCE at CU
- Limitations include small sample size
- Next steps include implementing the curriculum

## REFERENCES

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