

2nd Annual Palliative Care Research Retreat and Symposium



A collaborative meeting jointly sponsored by:

- The National Palliative Care Research Center
- The American Cancer Society
- The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine



National Palliative Care Research Center (www.npcrc.org)



- Center developed in response to the:
 - Shortage of palliative care funding structures;
 - Shortage of palliative care investigators;
 - Need for a national organizational home for palliative care research.
- Primary mission is to improve quality of care for patients with serious illness and meet the needs of their caregivers by promoting palliative care research and translating research results into clinical practice.



THE ROLLING STONES 

Funders and Partners



- Funders:
 - Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation
 - The Brookdale Foundation
 - The Olive Branch Foundation
 - The Ho/Chiang Foundation
 - Betty and Norman Levy Foundation
 - National Institute on Aging
- Partners:
 - Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC)
 - Mount Sinai School of Medicine
 - American Cancer Society
 - AAHPM

NPCRC Areas of Focus



- Exploring the relationship of pain and other distressing symptoms on quality and quantity of life, independence, function, and disability and developing interventions directed at their treatment in patients with advanced and chronic illnesses of all types;
- Studying methods of improving communication between adults living with serious illness with their families and their health care providers;
- Evaluating models and systems of care for patients living with advanced illness and their families under the current reimbursement structure.

NPCRC Current Activities



- Pilot/Exploratory Grants
 - Goal is to provide experienced investigators with pilot/exploratory data that will support larger NIH/VA/Foundation (e.g, ACS) funded research grant
- Junior Investigator Career Development Awards
 - Goal is to provide 2 years of protected time for junior investigators in palliative care
- Annual Research Retreat and Symposium

NPCRC New Initiatives



- Research Consultancy Program
- Intramural Research Activities
 - Cost savings associated with hospital palliative care
 - State report card on non-hospice palliative care
 - National normative database of non-hospice palliative care programs
 - Research priorities in palliative care

Research Consultancy Program

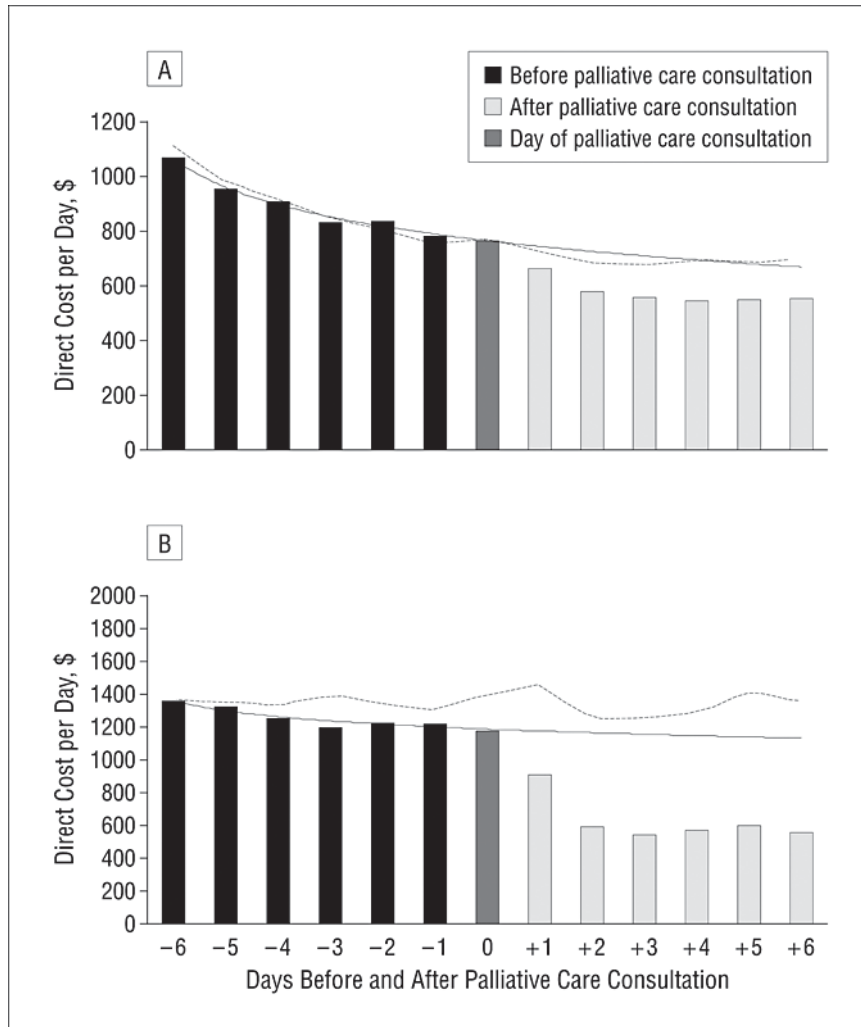


- Provides up to 10 hours of research consultancy to palliative care investigators
 - Biostatistics, qualitative methods, epidemiology, design, assessment, instrument selection
- Team of national experts in palliative care research
- Application process opens 11/08
- Supported by NIA (K24AG022345)

Cost Savings Associated with Hospital Palliative Care Consultation



- Collaborative project with CAPC
- Designed and conducted to:
 - Identify and quantify cost-savings that palliative care programs provide to hospitals
 - Apply propensity score methods to palliative care research
 - Provide national normative cost data for hospitals
- Results – Cost savings of:
 - \$170/day and \$/admission for patients discharged alive
 - \$/day and \$/admission for patients who died in hospital



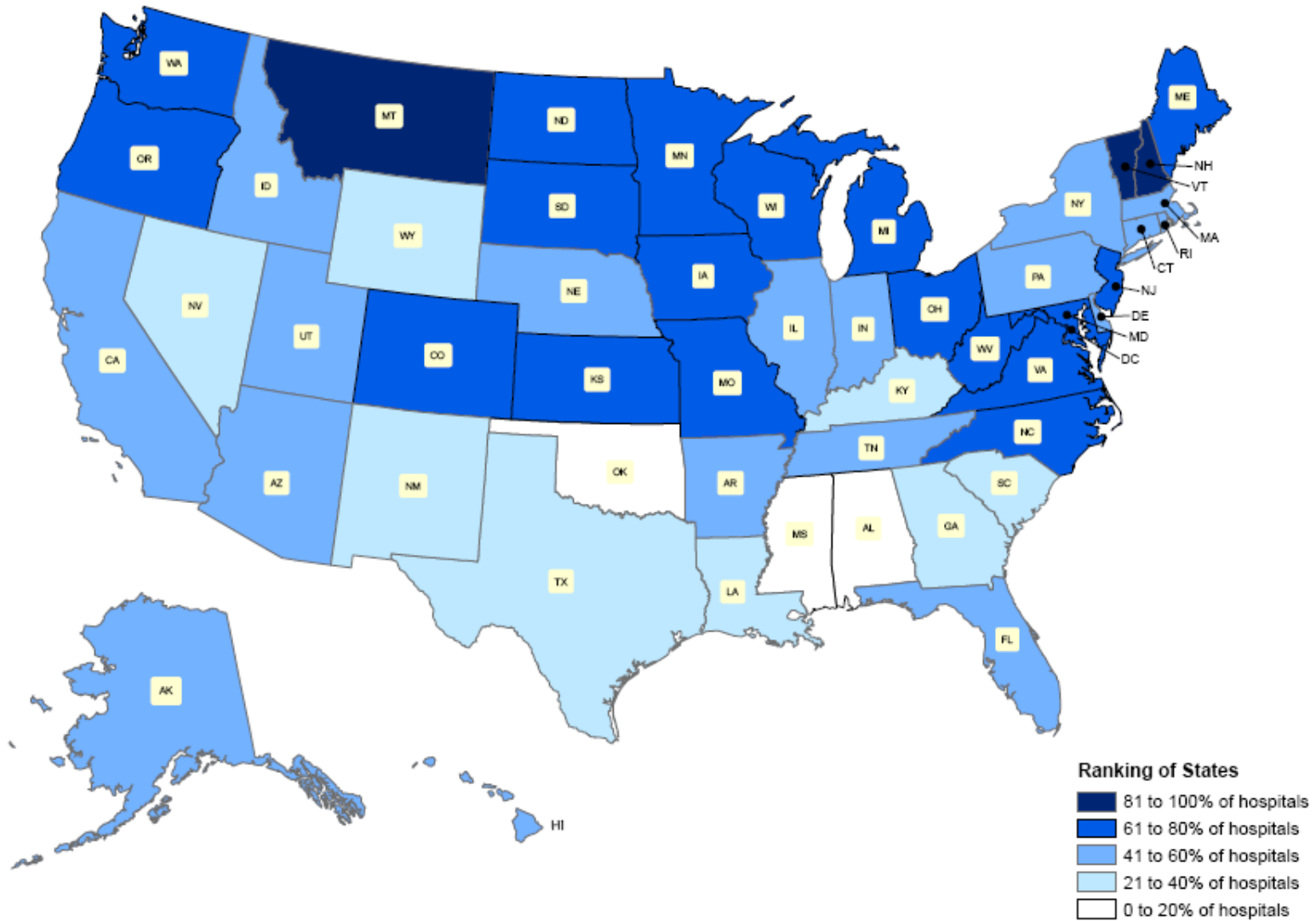
Mean direct costs per day for palliative care patients who were discharged alive (A) or died (B) before and after palliative care consultation

Morrison, R. S. et al. Arch Intern Med 2008;168:1783-1790.

Access to Hospital Palliative Care



- Collaborative Project with CAPC
- Designed and conducted to:
 - Examine state-wide variation in access to non-hospice palliative care
 - Examine medical student access to hospital palliative care
 - Serve as the scientific foundation for state by state report card on non-hospice palliative care
- Results
 - 53% of hospitals with more than 50 beds have a palliative care program (75% with over 300 beds)
 - 84% primary teaching hospitals for US allopathic medical school's report a palliative care program
 - 5 private medical school main teaching hospitals did not have a program – Albany Medical College, BU, Meharry, Tufts, Yale
 - 4 states did not contain a state-funded medical school affiliated with a non-hospice palliative care program – CT, MI, NE, NV



Palliative Care-Compare



- Collaborative project with CAPC
- National Registry of Hospital Palliative Care Programs
 - Operational metrics (structure, process)
- Aims:
 - National registry that will provide normative data for growth and development of non-hospice palliative care
 - Facilitate outcomes research on hospital palliative care
 - Provides tools for individual programs to track operational metrics over time

Research Priorities in Palliative Care



- Collaborative project with AAHPM, HPNA, NHPCO
- Develop and promote a shared research agenda for palliative care
- Audience
 - Policy makers, government, funders
- Process
 - Background cross-walk of prior publications, white papers, and internal documents conducted by the NPCRC
 - Consensus meeting with partner organizations
 - “White paper” on shared research priorities for funders
 - “A common ask”

What will the next 2 1/2
days hold?

Goals For Our Retreat



To provide an opportunity for interdisciplinary palliative care researchers to come together to network, learn from each other, discuss the science of palliative care, and develop new research ideas and collaborations.

Who is in the room?

- NPCRC
 - CDA grantees and their mentors
 - P/E grantees
 - Scientific Advisory Council Members
- American Cancer Society
 - Grantees
 - Program Directors
- College of Palliative Care
 - Scholars
 - Council members
- Palliative Care Research Leaders
- Funders and Supporters

- 15 RNs, 36 MDs, 15 PhDs (psychology, health services research, behavioural medicine)
- 23 Junior investigators, 43 Experienced investigators

Our Schedule...

Tonight

- 4:45-5:45: Keynote Address
 - *Healthcare disparities across the cancer continuum*, Otis Brawley, MD
- 5:45-6:30 pm: Networking Reception
- 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Dinner

Wednesday

- 7:00 – 8:00 am: Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:30 am: Interdisciplinary Research in Palliative Care-Making it happen
 - Presentation, breakout discussions
- 9:45 - 11:45 am: Research in progress presentations
- 11:45 – 1:00 pm: New funding opportunities at ACS
 - Presentation, discussion, lunch
- 1:00 – 5:00 pm: Networking/Free time
- 5:00 – 6:30 pm: Research Consultancies
- 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Dinner

Thursday

- 7:00 – 8:00 am: Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:30 am: Building a Sustainable Research Infrastructure: Strategies for palliative care research leaders (experienced investigators)
- 8:00 am – 9:30 am: Grant Workshop Part II: Responding to summary statements and revising your proposal (junior investigators)
- 9:45 – 10:45 am: Closing Plenary
 - *“Advising Young Researchers: It's not just about the publication or the grant”*, Kathleen Foley, MD

Kathleen M. Foley Palliative Care Research Retreat and Symposium