

Palliative Care Committee Agenda

Friday, May 13

Present: Christine Ritchie (co-chair), Shireen McSpadden (co-chair), Melissa McGee, Jeff Newman, Angie Pratt, Eric Weiss, Megory Anderson, Micheal Kersten, Rachel Miller, Wendy Anderson, DorAnne Donesky, Anne Hughes, Bill Verducci, Heather Harris

DAAS: Valerie Coleman

UCSF's Inter-professional Palliative Care Education Program

Wendy Gabrielle Anderson (Associate Professor, UCSF School of Medicine) and DorAnne Donesky (Associate Adjunct Professor, UCSF School of Nursing) gave a presentation on Continuing Interprofessional Education in Palliative Care, providing both two years of the programs experiences, lessons learned and results as well as seeking feedback about how the program might better address workforce needs with regards to palliative care. Program also engages a chaplain and social worker as part of team. While currently housed with UCSF, willing to open it up and need feedback about ways to educate practitioners. Participants don't need to only be nurses, and past participants have been from all over the Bay Area from various companies and health systems. Regarding funding, the program ranges from \$5-6,000 per participant (if able to engage 25 people a year), open to feedback on costs. Another goal is to develop certification, depending on the participants discipline and are considering multiple tiers for various disciplines, recognizing that many individuals would be interested in the program but may not be able to take a year away from their practice/work. Donesky and Anderson intend to publish their work and results with regarding curriculum development and therefore are looking at current training to determine where gaps are, how other programs are currently taught, what they cover, and how to engage a broad range of potential participants. The program is taking applications in fall for cohort beginning in January, with classes offered weekly during day time hours.

CDPH Death Public Use data files

Michael Kersten and Rachel Miller, both from Hill Physicians Medical Group, gave a presentation on the results from their Death Data research. PowerPoint presentation is attached.

Palliative Care and Dementia

Angie Pratt, from the Alzheimer's Association, discussed the July 13th official opening of a new Alzheimer's Association (AA) office in SF. The issues brought up in previous presentations are a lot more complicated when you include dementia, which is why it's important for the AA to be partnering on other projects, such as palliative care. The goal is helping people to get diagnosed in the earliest stages of dementia; past experience has shown that 90% of AA clients served were in middle to late stages of dementia, which really becomes about supporting the families at that point and generally there is not enough time for palliative care at that point. With regards to the need for awareness, the AA has had a hard time getting physicians to conclude death by Alzheimer's and dementia is often not represented in a lot of the research. The AA

needs to educate their families about what palliative care is. Currently, a lot of their early work has been support group for patients in the earliest stages of dementia, looking to expand that work. Reminder that every 67seconds someone is diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Patients on average live 8 years (or 3 years cognitively) and a reminder that we talk about dementia like it's one thing (as opposed to recognizing that there are different types of dementia as well as onset differences, such as early, mid, late); it's like saying someone has cancer.

Website workgroup update

Redwing & Anne have been champions around making sure that people know what resources are available around palliative care. The group has a small grant (\$45k) to support this work but they'll need to funnel that grant through a more flexible agency than UCSF or DAAS. Recognition that websites are dynamic and a lot of work part of the work is in helping to ensure the sustainability of the website, as well as make sure it doesn't get stagnant. More to come.

Next meeting date –
Thursday, June 2, 2015, 2:00 – 3:30pm
1650 Mission Street, 5th floor, Golden Gate room