



COURSE

# ADVANCED PRACTICE IN PALLIATIVE CARE (MDSC 160)

(15 week 20 credit M level course)



MARIE CURIE PALLIATIVE CARE  
INSTITUTE LIVERPOOL  
LEARNING AND TEACHING DIVISION



# MDSC 160: ADVANCED PRACTICE IN PALLIATIVE CARE

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This flexible course is designed for Doctors, Nurses and Allied Health Professionals seeking to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of palliative care as part of their academic and career development. It is suitable for professionals who are aiming to balance study and full time work with home life and who wish to have a flexible approach to learning.

Advanced Practice in Palliative Care (MDSC 160) is accredited with the University of Liverpool and can be undertaken as an individual 'stand alone' course in support of your continuing professional development or as part of your academic study within a University of Liverpool MSc Programme. The course is delivered in conjunction with the StR Palliative Medicine Training Course and therefore some of the learning activities will be shared.

## ABOUT THE COURSE

The course provides you with the opportunity to examine the principles and practice of palliative care, including the nature and consequences of advanced life limiting illness and the issues relating to treatment decisions. You will be encouraged to reflect upon and critically analyse the complex issues involved in developing effective clinical practice within contemporary palliative care provision. Examples of the topics that you will engage with during the course include the influence of ethics on treatment decisions, clinical symptom management and the impact of communication on clinical practice. Your study will also include the opportunity to attend a clinical placement within a palliative care setting, supported by a senior clinician within palliative care.

## HOW YOU WILL LEARN

You will study using a blended approach to learning, which involves interactive workshops, e-learning activities and clinical placements. This combination of approaches provides the opportunity for you to reflect upon current practice, observe and discuss key topic areas with expert clinicians and evaluate specific palliative care approaches to clinical management. You will have the opportunity to gain new in depth knowledge within the field of palliative care and explore ways in which to develop and apply your knowledge within practice.

The course includes a 2 day Advanced Communication Skills Training (ACST) Workshop using the 'Connected' Model of training, which enables you to examine complex communication related topics using actor based, simulated patient scenarios. The Connected Model draws upon a participant led agenda, allowing you time to reflect upon your current expertise, critically appraise strategies for approaching complex interactions, practice newly developed skills with the use of role play and consider the implications of applying effective communication skills to your own clinical practice. You will receive positive, constructive feedback within an interactive, intensive but safe and supportive environment. The course is facilitated by recognised advanced communication skills trainers with a clinical background in healthcare.

A separate certificate will be issued for your attendance at the ACST Connected Workshop.



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### ASSESSMENT

On successful completion of the Course you will achieve 20 credits at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework. In order to achieve this you will need to successfully complete a summative assessment set against clearly identified learning outcomes. The summative assessment currently consists of three components, including 2 pieces of academic written work and a short presentation. Further information regarding the assessment process can be provided on enquiry or application. It is strongly recommended that you discuss the activities and summative assessment requirements before registering to undertake the course.

### COURSE FEE

For further information about this course including course fees and how to register please contact Mrs. Jan Barnard Administrator 0151 794 8806 or email [jan.barnard@liv.ac.uk](mailto:jan.barnard@liv.ac.uk). You can also click on the ['course enquiry'](#) link to request further information.

Funded places may be available for this course, although please be aware that these places may be limited.

## WHERE DOES IT LEAD?

On completion of this course you will receive 20 credits at Level 7 of the [Higher Education Credit Framework](#) which can be used as evidence of continuing professional development within your field of practice or as part of your academic development. The course compliments the MDSC 161: Advanced Practice in End of Life Care and can be used as part of a specific MSc Programme within the University of Liverpool. For further information on the MSc Programme please contact Mrs. Sharon Phillips, Learning and Teaching Lead (Acting) on 0151 794 8827 or [Sharon.phillips@liv.ac.uk](mailto:Sharon.phillips@liv.ac.uk)



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## COURSE LEADERS

Advanced Practice in Palliative Care is jointly facilitated by Lecturers and Clinicians with a clinical background in palliative care. The Facilitators will be involved in teaching within the interactive workshops and the online activities and will provide support throughout the duration of the course. Below you will find the core teaching team, however there are a number of Lecturers and Clinicians regularly involved in providing teaching and clinical support.



Mrs. Sharon Phillips  
Learning and Teaching Lead (Acting)  
PGCLTHE, BSc (Hons), RN, EN(G), F HEA



Mrs. Jan Howard  
Lecturer  
PGCLTCP, BSc (Hons), RGN, F HEA



Dr Alison Coackley  
MB ChB  
Consultant in Palliative Medicine  
The Clatterbridge Centre NHS Foundation Trust



Dr Helen Bonwick  
MB ChB  
Associate Specialist in Palliative Medicine  
Marie Curie Hospice, Liverpool

Please Note: Topic areas identified for inclusion within the curriculum are examples of the core components of the module and specific sessions may be subject to change to reflect contemporary issues within palliative care

