

American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine
In Collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School
Global Palliative Care Program
In Joint Providership with Cleveland Clinic

FIRST REGIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE CONFERENCE: An Essential Component of Comprehensive Care Across Disease Groups

Program Overview

This 2-day course is designed to introduce physicians, nurses, and other clinicians to the core principles of palliative care. Participants will include practitioners who are interested in improving clinical practice and influencing policies related to the provision of patient-centered comprehensive care for patients with serious illness in the Eastern Mediterranean. Disciplines represented will include primary care, pediatrics, neurology, cardiology, oncology, and pulmonary and critical care.

Objectives

- To promote awareness of the need for palliative care as a part of Universal Health Services
- To promote the role of palliative care across disease groups, age groups, and health system levels as per WHO guidance.

Faculty

Course Directors

- Hibah Osman, MD, MPH: American University of Beirut and Harvard Medical School
- Eric L. Krakauer, MD, PhD: Harvard Medical School, former WHO Medical Officer for Palliative Care
- Ali Taher, MD: Naef K Basile Cancer Institute

Scientific Committee

- Salah Zeineldine, MD – Pulmonology/Critical Care
- Achraf Makki, MD – Neurology
- Angela Massouh, RN, PhD – Cardiology
- Arafat Tfaily, MD – Oncology
- Ali Hallal, MD – Surgery
- Raya Saab, MD – Pediatric Oncology

Logistics

- Dates: September 25 – 26
- Participants:
 - Physicians, nurses, social workers, mental health professionals from the EMRO region
 - Specialists in palliative care, pulmonology/critical care, oncology, cardiology, neurology, pediatrics, surgery, primary care
- Continuing Medical Education credits (through Cleveland Clinic)

Program

Wednesday September 25

8:00 – 8:30	REGISTRATION
8:30 – 9:00	Welcome and introductions
9:00 – 10:00	The medical and ethical imperative of palliative care: Guidance from the Lancet Commission on Palliative Care and WHO <i>Dr. Eric Krakauer</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Palliative care in the Middle East: An overview <i>Dr. Hibah Osman</i>
10:30– 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00 – 11:30	Cultural challenges to palliative care in the region: (Truth telling/religion/family/communication) <i>TBD</i>
11:30 – 12:30	Oncology: Palliative care in the age of immunotherapy and targeted therapy <i>Dr. Antoine Finianos</i>
12:30 – 13:45	LUNCH BREAK
13:45 – 14:30	Palliative care in humanitarian crises <i>TBD</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Palliative care in marginalized populations: Prisoners/Migrant workers/ LGBT/SUD <i>Dr. Rana Yamout</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Palliative care for people with End-Stage Renal Disease <i>TBD</i>
15:30 – 16:15	Palliative care for people with Neurological disease <i>Dr. Achraf Makki</i>
Thursday September 26	
8:30 – 9:30	Integrating palliative into Primary Health Care in the Middle East <i>Dr. Hibah Osman</i>
9:30 – 10:30	Palliative care in pediatrics <i>TBD</i>
10:30– 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00– 11:30	Palliative care for people with congestive heart failure <i>TBD</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Palliative care for people with pulmonary disease <i>TBD</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Conclusion and closing remarks