



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Clerkship in Palliative Care

2324-5-H4101D378

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#### Aims

To provide students with direct experience in the management, care, and assistance of oncological and non-oncological patients - adult and paediatric patients - who develop complex and advanced chronic conditions under the care of hospital, hospice, and home care facilities within local palliative care networks through specialized teams.

#### Contents

Know the semeiotics and the clinical problems of the incurable patient.

Knowledge of assessment scales for specific palliative care needs.

Recognizing different attitudes and emotional responses in the face of incurable illness, dying, death, and mourning.

Identifying factors that promote empathetic and personalized communication with patients and/or their families.

Recognizing the physical, psychological, social, existential, and spiritual needs of patients and families, as well as possible pathological conditions related to end-of-life situations and their associated symptoms.

Identifying factors that facilitate teamwork.

#### Detailed program

The student will accompany the supervising physician during their working day, following a guided tour of the network's facilities.

- Discussion of clinical cases addressing the following topics:
  - Pharmacological treatment of the most common symptoms.

- Severe, refractory symptoms, and palliative sedation.
- Communication with patients and families.
- Psychological, existential, and spiritual aspects, death, and mourning.
- Utilization of assessment scales for identifying and assessing the need for palliative care.
- Informed consent and advance care planning.
- Participation in team meetings.

## **Prerequisites**

Knowledge of clinical semiotics and methodology, pathophysiology, and pharmacology.

## **Teaching form**

Practical training activities in the care settings of the Local Palliative Care Network: hospital, outpatient clinic, home care, and hospice.

## **Textbook and teaching resource**

Il mondo delle cure palliative. Manuale per giovani medici. A. Turriziani, G. Zaninetta, ESCULAPIO 2020 (The world of palliative care: A handbook for young doctors by A. Turriziani, G. Zaninetta, ESCULAPIO 2020)  
 Fondamenti di Medicina Palliativa, C. Chelazzi, R. De Gaudio, I. Iannini, G. VILLA, IDELSON-GNOCCHI 2023  
 (Fundamentals of Palliative Medicine by C. Chelazzi, R. De Gaudio, I. Iannini, G. VILLA, IDELSON-GNOCCHI 2023)

## **Semester**

Fifth and sixth year of the degree course.

## **Assessment method**

Interview with a discussion of a clinical case from those encountered during the internship, where the student must critically analyze the case, identifying care and assistance objectives.

## **Office hours**

By appointment requested by sending an email to the instructor.

# Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

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