Exceptional, Compassionate Care

Joint Commission
Advanced Palliative Care Certification
Recognize Excellence
The Advanced Certification Program for Palliative Care is designed to recognize hospital inpatient programs that demonstrate exceptional patient and family centered care, and optimize the quality of life for adult and pediatric patients with serious illness.

Certification from The Joint Commission offers many opportunities to build and grow an outstanding palliative care program:

Improve the quality of care
The Joint Commission’s standards and emphasis on clinical guidelines help establish a consistent approach to care and reduce the risk of error.

Achieve excellence
Certification standards can help organize and focus your palliative care program with data-driven, evidence-based performance measures.

Drive change
The Joint Commission reviewers are trained to provide expert advice and education on best practices during on-site reviews, helping you find meaningful opportunities to improve your program.

Demonstrate expertise
Showcase your commitment to provide the highest quality services to your patients and community through accreditation.

“The Joint Commission Palliative Care Certification Program can be a driving factor for a facility setting up a patient-focused palliative care program. The surveyor’s suggestions were helpful in integrating palliative care forms into our electronic medical records. The review process also validated all the great work our team has been doing, confirming that our program is strong and making an impact.”

Jenny Prescia, MSN, RN, ACM, CCDS, NE-BC
Director, Case Management/Social Services/Orders Management Unit/RAC
Director, Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care Program
Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital

The Gold Seal of Approval®
For more than 60 years, The Joint Commission has been synonymous with quality, safety and performance improvement. Our standards are the most rigorous in the industry; our surveyors and reviewers are among the most knowledgeable in their fields; and our accredited and certified organizations are among the top in the marketplace.

The Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval® is widely recognized by peers, payors, insurers and the public, and helps you stand apart from competitors and build confidence in the community.
Advanced Palliative Care Certification

The Joint Commission’s Advanced Palliative Care Certification offers clear requirements for organizations eligible to receive certification.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Joint Commission Accredited Organization
- Served a minimum of 10 patients, at least one of which is active during the on-site review
- Ability to direct the clinical management of patients and coordinate care based on the patient’s and family’s needs
- Provide a full range of palliative care services to patients in need of palliative care services 24 hours a day, seven days a week with on-site or on-call staff

**CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

- A formal, organized palliative care program led by an interdisciplinary team whose members have advanced training in palliative care
- Leadership endorsement and support of the program’s goals for providing care, treatment, and services
- A special focus on patient, family engagement, and transitions of care from the acute setting to palliative care
- Processes that support the coordination of care and communication among all care settings and providers
- Specific requirements for departments that provide palliative care
- The use of evidence-based national guidelines or expert consensus to support patient care processes

**Impact Patient Care**

Certification offers more than a seal of approval from a trusted industry resource. Organizations that have received their Advanced Certification in Palliative Care have:

- Improved patient satisfaction with their care experience
- Increased communication and enhanced coordinated care across settings
- Decreased readmissions in both ED utilization and hospitalizations
- Increased allocation of clinical staff and IT resources

“Achieving Advanced Certification for Palliative Care has been instrumental in the growth of our program and is a point of pride for our health system. The certification process has ensured that we are following national standards and has helped garner support for the program, giving us the tools to integrate palliative care into the culture of our hospital.”

Gordon J. Wood, MD, MSCI, FAAHPM
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of Palliative Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Director of Palliative Medicine and Supportive Care, Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital
Associate Medical Director and Martha L. Twaddle Chair in Palliative Medicine, JourneyCare

**Start Your Certification Journey Today**

Learn more about Advanced Palliative Care Certification and how it can help you improve your program. Contact us today to get started.

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