

Death, Grief, and Mourning

PARTICIPANTS: 3rd year medical students

Faculty: Dr. Jacques L. Bolle, DNSc

LOCATION: Clinical Center, NIH, Room 2N236

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide an opportunity for students to meet with patients and families facing life-threatening illnesses.
- To increase students' awareness of the specific characteristics of working with the terminally ill.
- To help students in becoming more comfortable when facing the challenges of death and grief.

DURATION: 6 weeks rotation involving 1 hour per week.

FORMAT: Students will be presented a case for about 10 minutes by the site faculty. A student will volunteer to interview the patient/family member(s). This will take place in the patient's room or in a special designated room. Interview will last approximately 25 minutes and will be open for an additional 10 minutes to the other students who may also have questions. The remaining time (about 20 minutes) will be used to review the case under the guidance of the faculty in order to link clinical experience to key concepts and theory specific to the field of Thanatology and grief work.

PATIENT POPULATION: Cancer, HIV, and autoimmune diseases.

REFERENCES:

Garfield, Charles A., Psychosocial Care of The Dying Patient
McGraw-Hill Book, 1978

Doka, Kenneth J.; Davidson Joyce D. Living with Grief, Hospice
Foundation of America, 1998