

Course Announcement

OSI Seminar
on
Psychiatric Aspects of Palliative Care
March 1 – March 7, 2009
Schloss Arenberg, Salzburg, Austria

The Open Society Institute's International Palliative Care Initiative (IPCI) is pleased to invite you to apply to participate in a special seminar on *Psychiatric Aspects of Palliative Care*, to be held March 1 – March 7, 2009 at Schloss Arenberg in Salzburg, Austria.

The goal of the conference is to understand the psychiatric aspects of palliative medicine that contribute to suffering and diminished quality of life and develop knowledge and skills to ameliorate this suffering and optimize good quality care. The conference will be held in English.

The course will be co-directed by Dr. David Kissane, Attending Psychiatrist, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Professor of Psychiatry, Weill Medical College of Cornell University and Dr. Kathleen Foley, Medical Director of IPCI, Attending Neurologist in the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Clinical Pharmacology at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. Faculty members will include Dr. Marguerite Lederberg, MD, Attending Psychiatrist at MSKCC with expertise in the ethics of end-of-life care; Dr. Tomer Levin, MD, Assistant Psychiatrist at MSKCC with expertise in cognitive-behavior therapy and psychotropic medication; and Dr. Carma Bylund, PhD, Assistant Behavioral Scientist at MSKCC with expertise in communications skills training.

The cost of round-trip economy airfare or railroad travel, hotel accommodations, and all meals will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE, as of January 1, 2007, visa costs, in-country transportation costs, insurance, and per diems **ARE NO LONGER COVERED** and are the responsibility of each participant. Eligible participants will be citizens from countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union who are living and working in their home country. Participants from Africa and Southeast Asia who are living and working in their home country are also encouraged to apply¹. All participants must be able to attend the entire course.

Physicians working in hospice and palliative care, who wish to expand their knowledge of the psychiatric aspects of palliative care, will be given priority. Physicians in the following disciplines are eligible to apply: psychiatry, primary care, family practice, internal medicine, geriatrics and public health. Psychologists and social workers who work in hospice and palliative care are also invited to apply¹. The ideal applicant will care for patients on a weekly basis, teach medical students on a regular basis, belong to a university curriculum committee, belong to a national or international professional organization, or hold a position of influence – for example, a deputy director of a medical center. Candidates fulfilling all four criteria will be given priority.

¹ Participants coming from countries in Africa and Southeast Asia will be responsible for arranging and paying for their own economy-class travel and will be reimbursed for their airfare in Salzburg.

The course content will include:

- the presentations and epidemiology of psychiatric disorders and existential distress within palliative care;
- the range of psychotherapeutic and psychotropic interventions used to ameliorate existential distress and psychiatric disorders;
- the assessment and management of pain in patients receiving palliative care;
- care of palliative care staff, the patient's caregiver and family, and continuation of this care into bereavement;
- ways to improve skills to provide supportive interventions to patients, couples and families in the palliative setting;
- skill development at facilitating communication skills training for palliative care clinicians;
- the range of ethical dilemmas that challenge clinicians in the practice of palliative medicine;
- effective strategies to ensure palliative care services optimally deliver high quality psychosocial and spiritual care as a key component of their service delivery.

The format of the course will include both plenary and interactive workshop sessions. Special workshops included in this seminar will be:

- 1) Psychotherapeutic & Counseling Techniques for the palliative care physician;
- 2) Train-the-Trainer in Facilitating End-of-Life Communication Training; and
- 3) The Ethics of End-of-Life Decision-Making.

Background on 2009 teaching faculty:

Dr. David Kissane, MD is an Attending Psychiatrist and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, America's leading Comprehensive Cancer Center. He holds the Alfred P. Sloan Chair of Research at MSKCC and is also Professor of Psychiatry and Vice-Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is boarded in Psychiatry, Palliative Medicine and Family Medicine. His research interests include psychotherapy interventions during cancer care, studies of existential distress and demoralisation; the ethics of end-of-life decision-making; and communication studies. He was the Foundation Chair of Palliative Medicine at the University of Melbourne, Australia from 1996 - 2003, a Past President of the International Psycho-Oncology Society and Recipient of the Arthur Sutherland Award for lifetime achievement in Psycho-oncology. Among many publications, he has authored *Family Focused Grief Therapy* (Open University Press, 2002) and *Handbook of Communication in Oncology and Palliative Care* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

Dr. Kathleen M. Foley, MD is an Attending Neurologist in the Pain & Palliative Care Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City and is also Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience, and Clinical Pharmacology at Weill Medical College of Cornell University, and previous Director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Cancer Pain Research and Education at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She holds the Chair of the Society of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Pain Research. Dr. Foley is currently the Medical Director of the International Palliative Care Initiative of the Public Health Program of the Open

Society Institute working to advance palliative care globally. She has focused her career on the assessment and treatment of patients with cancer pain. With her colleagues, she has developed scientific guidelines for the use of analgesic drug therapy through clinic pharmacologic studies of opioid drugs. She was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences for her national and international efforts in the treatment of patients with cancer pain. Dr. Foley chaired three expert committees that resulted in the publication of the three WHO monographs on Cancer Pain and Palliative Care; “Cancer Pain Relief” (1996), “Cancer Pain Relief and Palliative Care” (1990), and “Cancer Pain and Palliative Care in Children” (1996).

Dr. Marguerite Lederberg, MD is an Attending Psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. She is boarded in Psychiatry and Pediatrics. She is highly respected as an outstanding clinician, educator and ethicist, having served for many years on Memorial Hospital’s Ethics Committee. Her research interests include ethics and family care. Among her many publications, she is an editor of the textbook *Psycho-Oncology* (Oxford University Press, 2nd Edition, 2009).

Dr. Tomer Levin, MD is an Assistant Attending Psychiatrist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He is boarded in Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine. His research interests include communication in end-of-life care, mixed anxiety-depressive disorders and promoting treatment adherence in medical care. He serves on Memorial Hospital’s Ethics Committee and is active within the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine.

Dr. Carma Bylund, PhD is an Assistant Behavioral Scientist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Assistant Professor of Psychology at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University. She is a communication specialist and has helped establish the MSK Communication Skills Training and Research Laboratory. Her research interests include communication on the Internet, facilitation of communication skills training and training patients to optimize having their needs met in medical consultations. She is a funded NCI researcher and active member of the American Academy on Communication in Healthcare.

We welcome country coordinators to forward the announcement and application on to hospitals, colleges, and universities.

The final selection of participants will be made by the OSI course directors. All applications must be received by November 5th, 2008. Selected candidates will be notified by December 2008.

**Open Society Institute/SOROS Foundation
Open Medical Institute**

**Salzburg Medical Seminars International
2009**

Application Form

Seminar you are applying for:	Seminar Date	Deadline for Application
Psychiatric Aspects of Palliative Care	Sun. Mar. 1 – Sat. Mar. 7, 2009	November 5th, 2008

**Please type in your answers in ENGLISH only and email this completed form to
rchang@sorosny.org**

Family name (as it appears on your passport):

First name:

Title:

Work Mailing Address:

Name of Institution:

Department:

Work Mailing Address:

Work and home email address:

Passport Number:

Sex (male or female):

Date of birth (day/month/year):

Place of birth:

Country of Citizenship:

Date Issued:

ID Number:

Date Issued:

Home Mailing Address (invitation letters will be sent to you at home):

Home telephone number:

Please answer the following questions:

1. When did you complete medical school?
2. Are you on the curriculum committee at your university?
3. Are you proficient in English? Speaking, Reading, and Writing?
4. Will you be able to attend the entire course?
5. How many palliative care patients do you care for in one week?
6. Approximately how many medical students do you teach in one year?
7. How often do you teach medical students?
8. Do you work with other colleagues in providing palliative care?
9. Are you a member of a professional medical association? If so, which one(s)?
10. Are you a member of your national hospice or palliative care association?
11. Please explain why you are interested in attending this special Psychiatric Aspects of Palliative Care Course and how you will use this new knowledge when you return home.
12. Please rank your knowledge of palliative care—beginning, intermediate, advanced
13. Please rank your knowledge of psychiatry—beginning, intermediate, advanced.
14. What medications are available in your country to treat delirium?
14. What medications are available in your country to treat patients with depression, anxiety, demoralization, panic disorder, post traumatic distress disorder, fatigue?
15. Do you understand that you must attend every lecture during the entire course?
16. Do you understand that visa costs, in-country transportation costs, insurance, and per diems are no longer covered and are the responsibility of each participant?

Please attach, as one document if possible, the following materials along with your application form and send to Rebekah Chang at rchang@sorosny.org

- CV (curriculum vitae)
- Digital Photograph
- Medical Diploma (scanned)
- Medical License (scanned)
- Specialization Diploma/s
- List of English publications (if available)

If you have questions please email rchang@sorosny.org.