

# The Growth of Hospice Palliative Care Nursing as a Specialty in Canada



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# Presentation Outline

- History of Hospice Palliative Care -Canada
- Principles of Hospice Palliative Care
- Hospice Palliative Care Nursing Standards
- Hospice Palliative Care Exam Competencies
- Benefits of Certification
- Process to achieve CHPCA Nursing Certification

# Palliative Care Nursing



The essence of palliative care nursing is the art and science of caring for and comforting the dying and their families.

Vachon, 2001

# History of Hospice Palliative Care in Canada



- 1974- First palliative care units
- 1981- Palliative Care Foundation
- 1990- Canadian Palliative Care Association
- 1995- Special Senate Committee on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

# History of Hospice Palliative Care in Canada



- 2001- Prime Minister appoints Minister with Special Responsibilities for Palliative and End-of-Life Care
- 2002- A Model to Guide Hospice Palliative Care: National Principles and Norms of Practice
- 2004- Benefits
  - Manitoba Palliative Care Drug Coverage
  - Compassionate Care Benefits

# Development of Hospice Palliative Care Nursing Standards of Practice



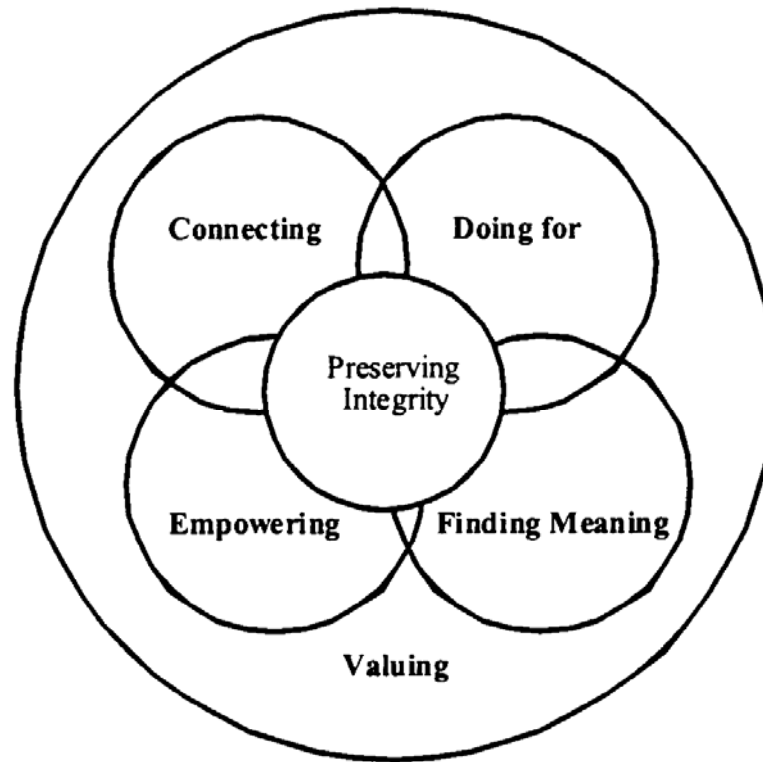
Kristjanson & Balneaves (1995)

- Surveyed 100 Canadian Palliative Care Nurses
  - Two main concerns were identified:
- Standards of **Practice** for palliative care nursing needed to be developed.
- The **Educational** needs of practicing palliative care nurses needed to be addressed.

# Supportive Role of the Nurse in Palliative Care- Davies & Oberle (1990)

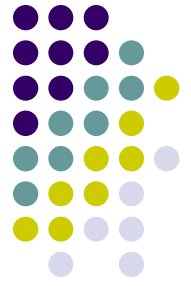


## Dimensions of Care



# Principles of Palliative Care

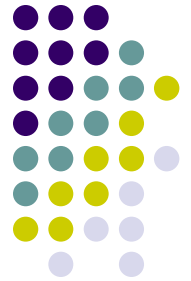
(Ferris Square- Norms of Practice for Hospice Palliative Care, 2001)



- Meet the needs- physical, psychological, emotional and spiritual- of the dying person and family
- Access equal services without discrimination
- Respect for Ethical Principles
- Right to Information
- Right to Choice/Empowerment
- Patient and Family = Unit of Care

# Principles of Palliative Care

(Ferris Square- Norms of Practice for Hospice Palliative Care, 2001)



- Interdisciplinary team approach
- Continuity of Care
- Community collaboration through partnership and mutual support
- Governance and Administration
- Quality of Care: Standards of Conduct/Practice
- Program Evaluation
- Education, Information, Research & Advocacy



# Why Certification?

- Defines the model for hospice palliative care
- Increased personal/professional satisfaction
- Aligns with CNO Continuing Competence Programs
- Certification closes the gap between nursing education and practice
- Employers' support certification
- Universities grant credits toward Nursing Degree
- Defines “Generalist”, “Specialist” or “Advanced Practice” role in hospice palliative care nursing

# Role Definitions in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing



- Generalist Role
  - Prepared to care for patients in a variety of health care settings, requires basic understanding of hospice palliative care principles and understands pain and other symptom issues in the context of the palliative care team.

# Role Definitions in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing



- Specialist Role

- “Specialist palliative care nursing aims to provide relief from suffering and improve Quality of Life for both patients and their families. It is a holistic approach acknowledging that suffering is more than physical distress, and recognizing that the patient requires a combination of physical, psychological, social and spiritual care.

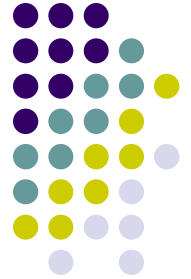
Royal College of Nursing (2000)

# Role Definitions in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing

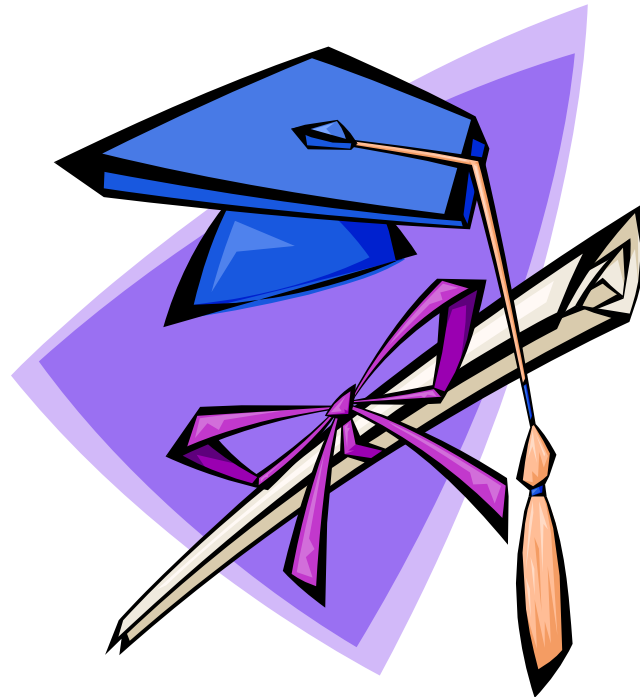


- Advanced Practice Role
  - Generally works as a consultant throughout a facility or program using a framework for advanced practice as defined by C.N.A.

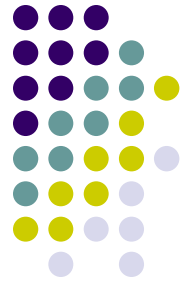
# Certification Update (All Specialty Areas)



- 1991- 40 nurses certified
- 2004- 12,694 nurses certified
- 2005- 13,467 nurses certified

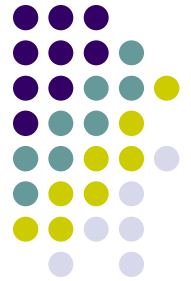


# Nurses Assisting with CHPCA Nursing Certification



- Standard Development- 12 nurses, 5 provinces
- Proposal Writing- 7 nurses, 2 provinces
- Competency Development- 32 nurses, 10 provinces
- Item Writing- 30 nurses, 10 provinces, 1 territory
- Exam Committee- 9 nurses, 3 provinces

# Competency Framework

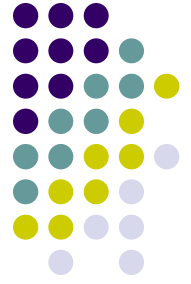


- Competency- “The skills, knowledge, experience, attributes and behaviors required by an individual in order to perform the job effectively
  - (Royal College of Nursing, 2000)

# Competency Framework

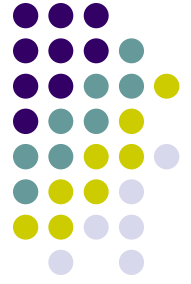


- Care of the Person and the Family
- Pain Management
- Other Symptom Management
- End of Life Planning/ Dying and Death Management
- Loss, Grief and Bereavement Support
- Interdisciplinary/Collaborative Practice
- Education
- Professional Issues and Advocacy



# Certification Criteria

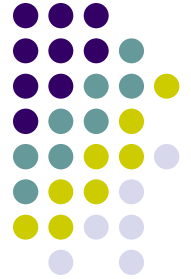
- Current RN license
- 3,900 hours of experience in 5 years immediately prior to applying
- Endorsement from Employer
- Completing the application form and paying the fee (\$450.00). MNU and WRHA provide education reimbursement



# Exam Data

- Exam date April 14, 2007
- Exam application deadline November 17, 2006
- Exams are administered across Canada on the same day
- The exam is a 4-hour multiple-choice exam
- The exam is based on 2 years experience in the specialty
- Your certification credential is valid for five years

# Exam Locations



- Brandon Regional Health Centre
- Health Science Centre