

International Workshop on Prognosis in Palliative Care

in collaboration with
the **BC Hospice Palliative Care Association Conference**
“Bold Steps: Expanding the Circle”

May 25th-27th 2007, Sheraton Guilford Hotel, Surrey, BC

hosted by the [Victoria Palliative Research Network](#)

This exciting first Canadian international workshop on prognosis in palliative care will explore the current understanding and needs for improvement in care at end-of-life. The challenge of sharing of prognosis is relevant, important and yet fraught with inaccuracy. Further, the ways in which bad news is communicated to patients and families can sometimes be more harmful than helpful.

This workshop brings together over 20 researchers and clinicians who are currently involved in studying ways to improve our knowledge and skills in this area. The workshop will have two main streams: the **Science of prognostication** and the **Art of communication** in sharing bad news. In addition, there are also combined plenary, a formal debate and general discussions.

It is hosted by the Canadian Institute of Health Research New Emerging Team (NET) research partnership of Victoria Palliative Research Network. The workshop is located and held in conjunction with the annual BC HPCA conference which provides additional opportunities for participants to attend other workshops.

TOPICS INCLUDE

The Science of Prognosis

- What are the current challenges with prognostication?
- Snapshot of prognostic tools currently in use
- How to improve – sentinel events, lab tests, symptom distress, disease variations, algorithms
- Research methodologies needed to improve accuracy
- Have we learned anything new?
- Exploring strategies and possible steps

The Art of Communication

- Why are some good communicators?
- Patient and family needs in communication
- Research in communication translated into clinical practice
- Non-Violent Communication program
- The art of silence in communicating hope
- Hope assessment
- Iatrogenic harm & three principles of communication
- Interdisciplinary team communication framework
- What types of studies are needed to improve the art of communication?

Debate – “Should we try to get better with prognostication, or just get better at dealing with uncertainty?”

Conference **Plenary** – “Expanding the Circle: Beyond Cancer Needs & Issues”

Conference **Plenary** – “Hope: Fusing Suffering, Soul & Story”

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

- **Dr. Eduardo Bruera** (*Co-Chair*) – Chair & Professor, Palliative Care & Rehab Medicine, University of Texas MD Anderson Medical Centre, Houston, USA
- **Dr. Paul Glare** – Clinical Associate Professor, Dept of Palliative Care, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, University of Sydney, Australia
- **Dr. Carol Stone** – Palliative Medicine, Mid-Western Cancer Centre, Mid-Western Regional Hospital, Limerick, Ireland
- **Dr. Joseph Weiner** - Director, Program in the Patient-Doctor Relationship; Medical Director, Palliative Care Service, Departments of Medicine & Psychiatry, Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New York

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PROGNOSIS IN PALLIATIVE CARE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS – May 25-27, 2007

Day		Time	Schedule	International Workshop – The Science & Art of Prognosis		Speakers				
Friday, May 25th	Morning	0800	Conference Opening	Welcome Official Opening of the BCHPCA Conference						
		0900	Plenary Keynote #1	<i>“Expanding the Circle: Beyond Cancer Needs & Issues”</i>		E. Bruera				
		1015	Refreshments							
		1045	Workshops	The Challenge (PRG1)						
				Welcome to International Workshops on Prognosis in Palliative Care	10 min.	Chair: M. Downing				
		The Science – What are the problems with prognostication?	30 min.	P. Clare						
		The Art – Why are some good communicators?	30 min.	G. MacLean						
		Open Q&A	20 min.							
		1215	Lunch	Main Conference participants – Lunch at Regional Meetings Prognosis Speakers – Luncheon						
	Afternoon	1345	Workshops	The Science Snapshot – Tools in Use (PRGS2)		Chair: P. Kirk				
				Introduction		C. Kuziemsky	The Art – Understanding Communication	Chair: P. Kirk		
				PPS, KPS		C. Kuziemsky		P. Kirk, I. Kirk, B. Gregson		
				PPI		M. Downing 10		Research in communication translated into clinical practice	J. Bavelas, G. MacLean, P. Kirk, A. del Vento, S. Shealing	
		PaP		C. Stone 10						
		ESAS, EFAT		A. Vigano 10						
		Other Tools		R. Fainsinger 10						
Q&A		F. Lau 15								
		1500	Refreshments							
		1530	Workshops	Panel Debate: (PRG3)		Chair: R. Fainsinger				
				“Should we try to get better with prognostication, or just get better at dealing with uncertainty” (quote by I. Higginson)		Panel: P. Glare, C. Stone R. Jevne, J. Weiner				
		1630		<i>(Prognostication Speakers & Invited Guests travel to Vancouver & dinner evening)</i>						
	Evening	1645	AGM/Reception	Conference delegates and participants						
Saturday, May 26th	Morning	0800	Breakfast							
		0900	Workshops	The Science How can it be improved? (PRGS4)		Chair: E. Bruera				
				Definition – sentinel event		E. Bruera 5	The Art (Understanding – cont'd) (PRGA4)	Chair: G. MacLean		
				Lab tests, nutrition, BIA		V. Baracos 15			Non-Violent Communication (NVC)	W. Peterson 20
				Symptom distress		A. Vigano 15			The art of silence in communicating hope	R. Jevne 20
				Disease variation		R. Fainsinger 15				Hope assessment
Care location/age variation		C. Stone 15	Q&A	15						
Can these help?		E. Bruera 10								
		1015	Refreshments							
		1045	Workshops	The Science (cont'd) (PRGS5)		Chair: E. Bruera				
Treatment utility/futility, stop/start, goals & ethics				M. Downing 20	The Art – Needs in Communication (PRGA5)	Chair: P. Kirk				
Can Algorithms help?				P. Glare 20			Iatrogenic harm & three principles of communication	J. Weiner 30		
– Pronostigram		F. Lau 20	Interdisciplinary team communication framework	C. Kuziemsky 30 M.E. Purkis						
– Prognostat		Q&A 15			Q&A	15				
		1200	Lunch	Networking Research Luncheon (Prognostication Group & other participants to attend)		Chair: P. Boston G. Fyles				
	Afternoon	1330	Workshops	The Science Research Methodologies (PRGS6)		Chair: F. Lau				
				Types of studies & methods needed to address possible improvements in prognosis?		V. Baracos 20	The Art Research Methodologies (PRGA6)	Chair: G. MacLean		
				E. Bruera 20		What type of studies are needed to improve the art of communication?			P. Kirk 30 A. Del Vento B. Gregson	
				M. Lesperance 20						Q&A 30
		Q&A 30		Q&A 30	30					
		1500	Refreshments							
		1530	Workshops or free-time	Have We Discovered Anything New? (PRG7)		Chair: P. Glare				
Reports from 2 Streams – Science and Art				15	Science – A. Vigano	Art – J. Weiner				
Panel (E. Bruera, R. Fainsinger, G. MacLean, M.E. Purkis)				20						
				Audience discussion		40				
		1700	Break							
	Evening	1800		Banquet & Entertainment – “The Blues Brothers Revue”						
Sunday, May 27th	Morning	0730	Breakfast							
		0830	Workshops	Exploring Strategies & Possible Steps (PRG8)		Chair: F. Lau				
				New or extended research opportunities		E. Bruera, P. Glare, P. Kirk				
				Report design and content suggestions for publication		C. Kuziemsky M. Downing				
		1030	Refreshments							
1100	Plenary Keynote #2	<i>“Hope: Fusing Suffering, Soul & Story”</i>		Dr. Ronna Jevne						
		1215	Conference Closing							

NATIONAL SPEAKERS

- **Dr. Vickie Baracos** – Professor and Alberta Cancer Foundation Chair in Palliative Care, Dept of Oncology, University of Alberta, Cross Cancer Institute
- **Dr. Janet Bavelas** – Professor Emeritus, Dep't of Psychology, University of Victoria
- **Dr. Michael Downing** (*Co-Chair*) – Clinical Associate Professor, Div of Palliative Care, University of British Columbia; Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria; Palliative Medicine, Victoria Hospice Society
- **Dr. Robin Fainsinger** – Director, Division of Palliative Medicine, Dept of Oncology, University of Alberta
- **Brian Gregson** – Student volunteer, U of Victoria
- **Sara Healing** - Master's student, Dept of Psychology, U of Victoria
- **Dr. Ronna Jevne** – Psychologist and Professor Emeritus, University of Alberta, Counselling Department
- **Dr. Peter Kirk** - Clinical Professor, University of British Columbia and University of Victoria; Vancouver Island Health Authority Research Director; BC Cancer Agency, Palliative Medicine
- **Ingrid Kirk** – Research Assistant, CIHR NET grant; Volunteer, Victoria Hospice Society
- **Dr. Craig Kuziemsky** – Post Doc Fellow, School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria; Assistant Professor, School of Management, University of Ottawa (as of July 2007)
- **Dr. Francis Lau** (*Co-Chair*) - Associate Professor, School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria
- **Dr. Mary Lesperance** - Professor, Dept of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria
- **Dr. Grant MacLean** – Senior Medical Oncologist, BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver Island Centre
- **Wayne Peterson** – Executive Director, Victoria Hospice Society
- **Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis** – Professor & Dean, Faculty of Human & Social Development, University of Victoria
- **Dr. Cheryl Nekolaichuk** – PhD, Clinical Psychology, Dept of Oncology, University of Alberta
- **Antonio del Vento** – Master's student, Dept of Psychology, U of Victoria
- **Dr. Antonio Vignano** – Assistant Professor, Dept of Oncology, Faculty of Medicine, McGill University, Quebec

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Registration:

For full details and online registration, visit the BCHPCA conference via website www.hospicebc.org. The early bird fee of \$350 is available until April 27. After this date the fee increases to \$425. The registration fee includes these workshops as well as the opportunity to attend other BCHPCA workshops and activities.

Accommodation:

The conference is located at the Sheraton Guilford Hotel in Surrey, BC. Conference room rates are available via the BCHPCA website.

CME approved:

This program meets the accreditation criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been accredited for 13.5 MAINPRO-M1 credits and by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for Maintenance of Certification.

See You There!!

VPRN is a Collaborative Research Partnership of:



University of Victoria
Victoria Hospice Society
Vancouver Island Health Authority
BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver Island Centre