TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

Office of the Director Academics

Fellowship Program in Palliative Medicine

Division / Department	:	Department of Palliative Medicine
Duration	:	6 Month

Overview:
This intensive Fellows at TMH is designed for residents and healthcare professionals seeking comprehensive exposure to the multidisciplinary practice of palliative medicine in a leading tertiary cancer center. The programme emphasizes hands-on observation, clinical reasoning, interdisciplinary teamwork, and academic enrichment.

Programme Structure

1. Outpatient Department (OPD) Exposure

- Observe initial and follow-up palliative care consultations.
- Learn symptom assessment, communication skills, and care planning.
- Participate in multidisciplinary clinics.

2. Inpatient Department (IPD) and Ward Rounds

- Shadow the palliative care team during daily rounds.
- Understand management of complex symptoms, end-of-life care, and family meetings.
- Observe interdisciplinary collaboration with nursing, physiotherapy, nutrition, and psychosocial support teams.

3. Emergency Department (ED) and Respite Care

- Witness acute symptom management and triage for palliative patients in the ED.
- Gain insight into the role of respite care in supporting patients and caregivers.

4. Home Care Exposure and Respite Palliative Care Exposure

- Accompany the home care team on community visits.
- Learn about continuity of care, home-based symptom management, and family support.
- Attend ward rounds at department's Respite Palliative Care unit

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5. Academics and Teaching

- Attend daily academic sessions, case discussions, journal clubs, and seminars.
- Participate in bedside teaching and interactive workshops on clinical and ethical dilemmas.

6. PM-POCUS (Palliative Medicine Point-of-Care Ultrasound)

- Observe the use of bedside ultrasound for symptom assessment and procedural guidance (e.g., nerve blocks, ascites, and pleural effusion).
- Understand indications, limitations, and integration with clinical decision-making.

7. ICU-Palliative Medicine Interface

- Attend consults and rounds in the ICU with the palliative care team.
- Learn about shared decision-making, symptom control, and communication with critically ill patients and their families.

Learning Objectives

- Develop a holistic understanding of palliative care across settings (OPD, IPD, ED, home, ICU).
- Enhance skills in symptom management, communication, and ethical decision-making.
- Appreciate the role of interdisciplinary teamwork in delivering high-quality palliative care.
- Gain exposure to innovative tools like PM-POCUS in clinical practice.
- Understand the challenges and rewards of integrating palliative care with oncology and critical care.

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Note:
This is a strictly observational programme. Participants are expected to adhere to hospital policies, maintain patient confidentiality, and actively engage in learning opportunities. No hands-on patient care or procedures will be permitted.

At the end of the Fellowship, participants will receive a certificate of completion and feedback from the TMH palliative care faculty.

Assessments	:	Intra-Departmental.
Completion Certificate	:	Will be issued upon successful completion of tenure.

Contacts

Head of Department	:	Prof. Dr. Jayita Deodhar
Academics Department	:	For Technical / Documentation / Joining Support / Virtual Assistance

Mr. Pratham G Mayekar– Administrative Assistant
Mobile Number (WhatsApp): +91-8097086211
Email ID: observers@tmc.gov.in&tmctrainingcell@gmail.com

Mr. Ganesh Mewati – Assistant (Academics)
Mobile number (WhatsApp): +91-8767008034
Email ID: observers@tmc.gov.in&tmctrainingcell@gmail.com

Mr. Daniel Shelke – Assistant Administrative Officer (Academics)
Mobile number (WhatsApp): +91-8850049927
Email ID: shelkeds@tmc.gov.in&danielcoordination@gmail.com