



# TATA MEMORIAL CENTRE

## Office of the Director Academics

### Observership Program in Palliative Medicine

Division / Department	:	Department of Palliative Medicine
Duration	:	1 week to 6 Month
Eligibility	:	MD/DNB Palliative Medicine or MD/DNB Pediatrics

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#### Observership Programme in Palliative Medicine at Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH)

##### Overview:

This intensive Observership 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 Observership, 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.

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#### **Contacts**

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