

Saint Joseph Hospital Palliative Medicine Fellowship

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Curriculum

Our fellows' rotational experiences occur across the health delivery spectrum and meet the ACGME requirements for a palliative medicine fellowship. The core educational experience occurs in the inpatient setting with increasing responsibility and autonomy occurring throughout the yearlong experience.

Rotation Blocks

Note: Each "block" is 4 weeks in length.

- Inpatient rotation - 6 blocks
- Inpatient hospice rotation - 1 block
- Home hospice rotation - 1.5 block
- Home-based palliative care rotation - 0.5 blocks
- Pediatrics rotation - 1 block
- Long-term care rotation - 1 block
- Elective rotation (elective opportunities include radiation oncology, interventional pain, psychiatry, oncology and cardiology) - 1 block
- Vacation/CME - 3 weeks vacation/1 week CME

Rotation Sites

Inpatient

The inpatient rotation occurs at Saint Joseph Hospital which is a community teaching hospital and tertiary referral center that includes residents training in family medicine, internal medicine,

surgery and OB/GYN. The hospital serves patients from Kaiser Permanente, National Jewish Health, and a large underserved population. The inpatient palliative care team has the support of chaplains, nurses, social workers and a pharmacist.

Hospice

The Lutheran Hospice is where the fellow receives their hospice training. Lutheran Hospice has a busy free-standing inpatient care center with 22 beds where general inpatient level hospice is provided. At this care center, advanced symptom control strategies are provided. Lutheran home hospice provides hospice services to patients in their home and other care facilities.

Home-based palliative care

The fellow will spend two weeks on the Kaiser Permanente home-based palliative care program. This unique service provides an interdisciplinary team approach to patients who are home bound and are not yet aligned with hospice care. Fellows have the opportunity to visit patients in their home and provide expert symptom management in the home environment.

Pediatrics

Fellows will spend one month with a board-certified hospice and palliative medicine pediatrician. The rotation consists of caring for patients at The Children's Hospital in Denver, as well as providing ambulatory for pediatric patients facing advanced illness.

Long-term care

During this rotation, fellows will see Kaiser Permanente patients who are in a subacute nursing facility. The fellow will work with a board-certified hospice and palliative medicine physician and social worker and will learn how to provide symptom management and conduct goals of care discussions in a nursing facility.