

Palliative Care in Wyoming



Topics to be Discussed

- Defining Palliative Care
- How Does Palliative Care Show Up in Wyoming
- Barriers to Supportive Care
- Potential Paths Forward

Defining Palliative Care



Elements of Palliative Care

- Supportive/ Comfort-focused Care
- Seriously Ill
- Pain/Symptom Management
- Preserves Quality of Life
- Holistic
- Patient/Family Directed
- Supports Decision Making



Case Study

- What needs to be Palliated?
- When should Palliative Care Start?

Common Symptoms

Physical	Psychological	Social	Spiritual
Pain Dyspnea Nausea Vomiting Pruritis Anorexia Fatigue Constipation Iatrogenic	Depression Grief Anxiety Panic PTSD Agitation	Isolation Loneliness Financial Issues Fear of being a burden	Loss of Meaning Angst

Take Home Points...

- Most Americans die of chronic diseases.
- Most will die in a nursing home or hospital.
- Almost 1 in 2 patients who die in hospitals and 1 in 4 patients who die in nursing homes die in significant pain.
- Family members express dissatisfaction with end-of-life care received by their loved ones.
- Appropriate provision of palliative care (early in the illness trajectory) and hospice care (in the last 6 months of life) can significantly improve care of patients with serious illnesses.

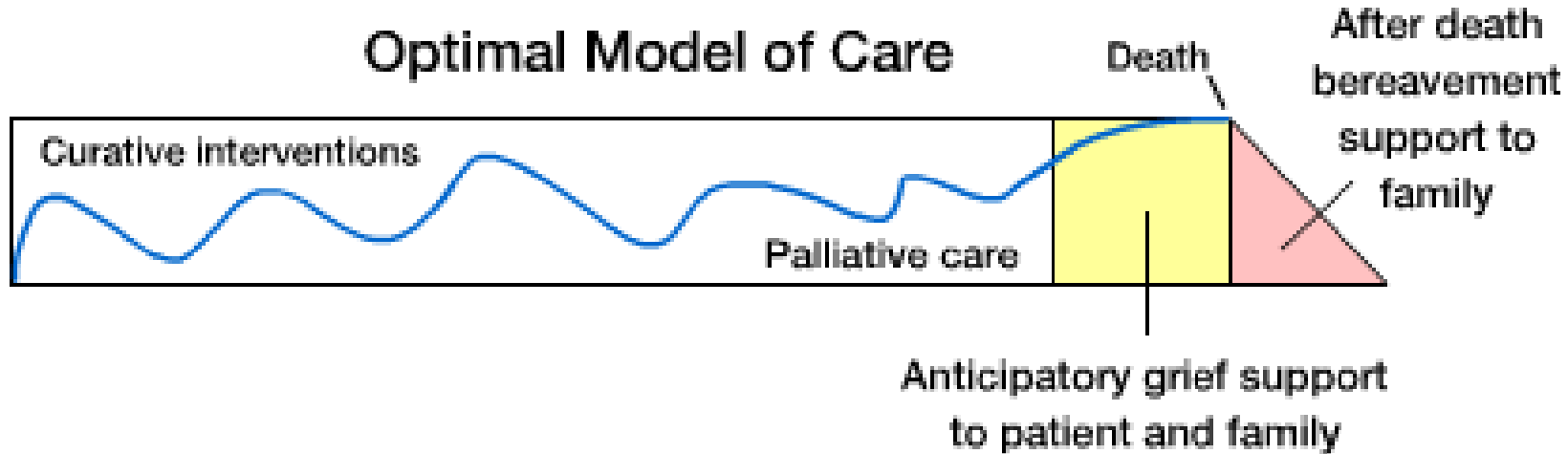
Solution

- Integrate Palliative Care with conventional medical care of all major illnesses
- Increase access to hospice care for those with less than 6 months to live
- Create an interdisciplinary approach
- Put the family at the center of the decision-making process
- Create opportunities for basic and advanced training in palliative care and hospice for all healthcare professionals

Current Model of Care



Optimal Model of Care



A Better Model of Care

How Does Palliative Care Show Up in Wyoming

Wyoming Stat §35-1-1201-1205

- Created a legal definition of Palliative Care in Wyoming
- Established a Palliative Care Advisory Council
- Directs the Department of Health to publish information and resources

Findings of the Palliative Care Advisory Council

- 47% of respondents had some experience with palliative care
- Lack of access to info on palliative care
- 55% of providers never received any training.

Locations of Care

Hospices

Hospitals

Community
Based

Primary
Care/Specialists

Hospital Based Palliative Care

Location	2019 Grade*	By Hospital Size			
		< 50 beds	50-150 beds	151-299 beds	300+ beds
State	37.5% D	33.3% (4/12)	16.7% (1/6)	100.0% (2/2)	0.0% (0/0)
Region	72.8% B	41.5% (66/159)	48.3% (29/60)	82.2% (37/45)	97.6% (41/42)
National	71.5% B	36.3% (557/1535)	51.1% (474/928)	75.6% (578/765)	93.7% (671/716)

Center to Advance Palliative Care. (2019) State by State Report Card

Barriers to Palliative Care

Barriers in Wyoming to Traditional Palliative Care Models

- Clinician Training
- Payment Source
- Small Population
- Rural State

Potential Path
Forward

- Palliative Care Education and Training Act (PCHETA)
- Expanding Access to Palliative Care Act

Upcoming Federal Legislation

Possible Recommendations

- Training
 - Make it part of the curriculum of Nursing, Social Work, and Medical Schools
 - Require CEUs
- Focus on Primary Care
- Alternative Models: Hospital/HH partnerships, Telehealth support
- Payment
 - Medicaid Benefit

Thank You

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