

1-year Clinical Fellowship in Pediatric Palliative Medicine

Prospectus and Application Form

Important Dates:

There is 1 position available each year. The position starts in January each year. The fellowship is 1-year in duration.

Deadlines for January 2022:

Last date to submit applications: Nov 15, 2021

Announcement of selection of candidates: Dec 1, 2021

Course start date: Jan 10, 2022

Course completion date: Jan 6, 2023

Course Fee:

Rs.30,000/-

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a one-year Clinical Pediatric Palliative Medicine Fellowship at the BJ Wadia Hospital for Children, Mumbai in collaboration with Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration.

This training program provides comprehensive subspecialty training in pediatric palliative care. Please find the program description and application process described below.

We look forward to advancing the field of Pediatric Palliative Medicine and supporting the training of future specialists in this area.

Warmly,

Dr. Veronique Dinand

MD, PhD (Pediatrics)
Head of Department
Pediatric Palliative and Supportive Care Unit
Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children
Parel, Mumbai

Dr. Megan Doherty

Fellowship, Co-Program Director
MD, FRCPC (Pediatrics, Palliative Medicine)
Program Director, Pediatric Palliative Care, Two Worlds
Cancer Collaboration
Program Director, Palliative Care, Children's Hospital of
Eastern Ontario, Canada
Assistant Professor, University of Ottawa, Canada

Introduction:

Palliative care for children encompasses “the active total care of the child's body, mind and spirit,” which assesses and seeks to relieve a child's physical, psychological, and social distress. This care includes support for the whole family. Early integration of palliative care is recommended and should begin when a life-threatening or life-limiting condition is diagnosed and continue regardless of whether or not a child receives treatment directed at the disease (1).

Pediatric palliative medicine is an integral component of holistic care for children facing serious illnesses. These illnesses include cancer as well as many other life-threatening or life-limiting conditions, including HIV/AIDS, protein energy malnutrition, congenital heart disease, serious neonatal conditions (including birth asphyxia), and congenital anomalies (2). A recent study estimating the global need for pediatric palliative care projected that 4.25 million children in India need palliative care at any one time, including 1.63 million who require specialized palliative care (3).

Physicians, nurses, counsellors, psychologists, play therapists, physiotherapists and a broad range of other health care professionals can provide pediatric palliative care, using specialized knowledge and skills to address the unique needs of children and their families.

1. WHO | WHO Definition of Palliative Care [Internet]. WHO. [cited 2016 Jun 26]. Available from: <http://www.who.int/cancer/pallia?ve/defini?on/en/>
2. Global Atlas of Palliative Care at the End of Life [Internet]. 2014. Available from: http://www.who.int/nmh/Global_Atlas_of_Pallia?ve_Care.pdf
3. Connor SR, Downing J, Marston J. Estimating the Global Need for Palliative Care for Children: A Cross-sectional Analysis. *J Pain Symptom Manage*. 2017;53(2):171–177.

The Clinical Pediatric Palliative Medicine Fellowship Program

Aims:

- To build the capacity of physicians to provide palliative care services for children across South Asia.
- To train physicians who will become leaders in the field of palliative care for children in India and across South Asia.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must have a post-graduate (MD/DCH/ DNB) degree, preference will be given to those whose degree is in **Pediatrics**. If candidates have a post-graduate degree in another clinical specialty, they should clearly mention in their statement of interest how their previous work and experience would ensure that they have sufficient knowledge of pediatrics to complete this fellowship. Fellows should have or need to apply for a MMC (Maharashtra Medical Council) registration at the time of application. An MMC registration is essential for the fellowship.

Course Design: The fellowship is a 1-year clinical academic program. The fellows will need to live in Mumbai, where the clinical training will take place. The program includes a one-month clinical rotation at the Pain Relief and Palliative Care Society (Hyderabad).

The fellowship includes regular formal teaching, case discussions and mentorship sessions with international, national, and local faculty, with an emphasis on evidence-based practice. Fellows will also receive international research mentorship to complete a research or quality improvement project.

Working hours will be from 9 am to 5 pm, Mon-Sat. There will also be after-hours responsibilities (via phone calls). Some of the academic activities are outside working hours.

Assessment: The fellowship incorporates regular clinical assessments, case-based discussions, research study to be presented, written reflection, and a final written and viva exit examination.

The focus is on ensuring that fellows become competent in the practice of pediatric palliative medicine.

Academic programme

- Formal teaching: daily from 10 to 21 January 2022, then weekly case-based teaching: developmental response to serious illness, death; ethics; oncology; neonatal palliative care, perinatal palliative care; complex neurological conditions, neuroirritability; pain assessment in non-verbal children, main management; challenging symptoms; end of life care, feeding and fluids, compassionate extubation; integrative medicine, play therapy, child life and recreation therapy; spiritual care; resilience and self-care; nursing in PPC, training nurses and other health care workers, providing telephone advice, setting up PPC services.
- Scholarly activities: research project, journal club (4/year), case presentations at Pediatric Palliative Care ECHO project (India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Philippines)-2 meetings/month
- Mentoring by international faculty
- Clinical rotation in various Pediatric departments at BJ Wadia Hospital for Children – 3 months
- Clinical rotation in home care, hospice, community based palliative care – Pain and Palliative Care Society, Hyderabad, 1 month

Selection of Candidates: The selection will be done by a committee. Since the program focuses on developing clinicians who will be future leaders in the field of pediatric palliative medicine, the statement of purpose and interview will be given considerable weight for each applicant. All applicants will be informed by email about whether their application was successful.

Course Fee: 30,000 INR (includes institutional fees and other resources).

Salary: 60,000 INR per month

Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital for Children:

<http://www.wadahospitals.org/BJWHC.aspx>

Bai Jerbai Wadia is a premier pediatric institute in India. It has been dedicated to healthcare for children since its formation in 1929. The institution runs many fellowship courses apart from the MD and DCH programmes.

Two Worlds Cancer Collaboration (TWCC):

www.twoworldscancer.ca/#home

TWCC is a Canadian non-profit foundation that recognizes the need for urgent action to help reduce the burden of cancer in resource limited settings. TWCC partners with Palliative Centres in Asia to provide care in hospice, homecare, and services for children in rural areas.

For further details, please contact:

Program Coordinator: Dr. Smriti Khanna

Palliative and Supportive Care Unit, BJ Wadia Hospital for Children

palliative.care@wadahospitals.org

Application Instructions:

Instructions: Please submit all of the following documents to Dr. Smriti Khanna
(Program Coordinator, palliative.care@wadahospitals.org)

- 1. Completed Application Form-** only fully complete applications will be considered.
- 2. Statement of purpose-** a brief statement on why you wish to pursue this training programme and how you would use the training in your future career (maximum of 500 words).
- 3. Copies of MBBS Degree Certificate, MBBS Transcripts, Proof of undergoing/completed internship, Registration certificate of MCI/State Medical Council, MD/DCH/DNB Pediatrics Degree Certificate.**

Application Form:

Name (In Full-as appearing in certificate): _____

MCI/DCI Reg. No.: _____ Date of Reg: _____ State: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____

Correspondence Address: _____

Street: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Details of Examinations passed (Self-attested copies of certificates to be attached)

Medical College	University	State	Month/ Year	% of Marks

Date of completion of internship: _____

Date of completion of **MD/DCH/DNB** Program: _____

Names of Professional References:

Reference #1

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Reference #2

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Employer: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

