

Palliative Care and Universal Health Coverage: A Component of Primary Health Care

May 21, 2019, Room IX, Palais des Nations 7:00-7:45pm

Programme

Chair Dr. Mariângela SIMÃO, ADG, Welcome and Introductions (5 mins)

Panelists and topics

- Hon. Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad Health Minister of Malaysia
Topic: The Sabah palliative care model and government support for integration of palliative care into primary health care (5 minutes)
- Representative of the Mission of Panama
Topic: Availability of essential palliative care medicines in primary healthcare (5 mins)
- Dr. Felcia Knaul Chair, Lancet Commission on Pain and Palliative Care
Topic: Findings of the Lancet Commission on Pain and Palliative Care regarding the abyss in access to palliative care, primary healthcare as platform to improve population access, and presentation of the Essential Package for low-and-middle income countries (5 mins)
- Dr. Stephen Watiti, Uganda. Expert patient and palliative care provider perspective.
Topic: Nurse training and certification to provide palliative care and prescribe essential controlled medicines at the Hospice Africa Institute (5 mins)
- WHO Secretariat
Topic: Presentation of guides and update on technical work of clusters (5 mins)

Moderated Discussion 10 Minutes

Organiser [The International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care](#) (IAHPC), organizer of this side event, is a non-state actor (NSA) in official relations with the World Health Organisation and accredited as a non-governmental organization (NGO) in consultative status with the United Nations Office of Economic and Social Affairs.

Objectives [Palliative care](#) is the active holistic care of individuals across all ages with serious health-related suffering due to severe illness, and especially of those near the end of life. It aims to improve the quality of life of patients, their families and their caregivers. The 2018 Astana Declaration on Primary Health Care's commitment to "prioritize disease prevention and health promotion [...] to meet all people's health needs across the life course through comprehensive preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative services and *palliative care*," (emphasis added) challenges governments that have not already done so, to expand palliative service provision from the private to the public sector, all the while maintaining quality person-centered care.

Panelists at this WHA72 side event will share challenges and progress regarding improving access to palliative care, including the gaps in access to essential medicines on the WHO Model List, and how governments might formulate person centered, cost-effective implementation strategies to honor commitments to Universal Health Coverage in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Supporting NSAs: The Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance, Union for International Cancer Control, and The International Federation on Ageing.