



#### Topic 4 Referral, eligibility and discharge

The roles of Specialist Palliative Care are explained, eligibility for referral, and reasons for discharge are discussed.



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### How to register for this programme:

Registration and completion of this programme is completed through HSeLand. Log in to HSeLand using your account details. In the search bar, search: "Palliative Care Needs Assessment eLearning Programme"

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PALLIATIVE  
CARE

# Palliative Care Needs Assessment eLearning Programme

## Introduction:

The Palliative Care Needs Assessment (PCNA) eLearning Programme has been developed for all health and social care professionals providing the palliative care approach who might meet patients with palliative care needs. These patients might require the palliative care approach, general or specialist palliative care. This programme aims to ensure that people with palliative care needs will have the needs of greatest concern to them, identified and responded to by skilled and confident staff.

## Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module, you'll be able to:

- Explain what a PCNA is and when it's appropriate to carry one out.
- Describe the levels of palliative care provision and the settings in which you should provide them.
- Summarise the four domains of palliative care in the context of a PCNA.
- Conduct a holistic assessment of a person's palliative care needs and document the outcomes.
- Describe the eligibility criteria for referral to and discharge from, a Specialist Palliative Care service.



This programme should take about 60 minutes to complete, plus assessments.

1 CPD hour awarded in accordance with NMBI guidance

1 CPD credit awarded by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

## The programme includes 4 topics



**Topic 1**  
The purpose of the PCNA

The PCNA is a means of identifying palliative care needs that are of most concern to a person with a life-limiting condition.

An appropriate care plan can then be developed to respond to these needs.

You should consider carrying out a PCNA for a person when:

- They receive a diagnosis of a life-limiting condition.
- Their disease is progressing.
- They or their family request it.
- There is a significant change in their functional status.
- There is a significant change in their family/social support.
- They are at the end of their life.



**Topic 2**  
Considering a PCNA for a person



**Topic 3**  
Documenting PCNA outcomes

On completion of each PCNA you need to have documented:

- The needs in each of the four domains of most concern to the person.
- If the person's needs can be met by the current team.
- If complex needs that cannot otherwise be met are identified, consider referral to your local Specialist Palliative Care service. Please remember to attach a copy of the completed PCNA with the referral.

Discuss the outcomes of the assessment with the multidisciplinary team and others involved in the patient's care before finalising the PCNA.

