SPEARHEAD INNOVATION IN END-OF-LIFE CARE

MSc IN PALLIATIVE CARE: IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICE
PGDip IN PALLIATIVE CARE: IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICE
PGCert IN PALLIATIVE CARE: IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICE
Death and dying aren’t typically normalised in our society. We’re facing a real crisis in terms of the growing number of people who are ageing, and as a consequence of that, living with life-limiting conditions. The purpose of this programme is to understand how we can develop and evaluate care that makes a difference to people at a critical moment in their life. If you are a health, social care or allied health professional working in palliative care, old age medicine, primary care or family medicine, physiotherapy or rehabilitation, our leading experts will equip you with the skills you need to work with fellow professionals to develop, implement and evaluate complex interventions.
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FULL-TIME: 1 YEAR
PART-TIME: 1 TO 5 YEARS
(Most modules are available as standalone CPD courses)

ONLINE DISTANCE-LEARNING PROGRAMME

DELIVERED BY WORLD-LEADING PALLIATIVE CARE EXPERTS
I am a nurse turned implementation scientist who conducts collaborative research in palliative care so that we can get the best of what we know about treatments and care delivered in routine practice. My collaborative approach to research brings together scientific rigour and the practical learning of stakeholders in areas such as the implementation of person-centred outcome measures, delirium assessment and management, and the management of breathlessness. I am a Reader in Implementation Science in the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre.

“My move from practice to research was motivated by a desire to understand, and change, the many things that stop knowledge being used to inform practice.”

Dr Mark Pearson, Programme Director

I am a health services researcher who conducts research focusing on the interface between inequity and palliative and end-of-life care, clinical uncertainty and decision making, and the development and evaluation of complex palliative care interventions. I have BA in Social Administration, an MSc in Sociology as Applied to Medicine and a PhD in Cancer Studies from King’s College London. I previously worked at the Cicely Saunders Institute at King’s College London where I developed a programme of work on disadvantaged dying and researching clinical uncertainty. For five years I was Postgraduate Dean for Taught Studies in the School of Medicine and was awarded a Teaching Excellence Award for my undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. I am Professor of Palliative Care and Associate Director of the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre.

“I have a particular interest in researching the interface between ethnicity, culture and palliative care and have a record of undertaking research on the development and evaluation of complex interventions using mixed methods research.”

Professor Jonathan Koffman, Programme Director
A DIFFERENT KIND OF MEDICAL SCHOOL

As a postgraduate taught student at Hull York Medical School, you will be welcomed into our vibrant and supportive community, addressing the needs of an ever-changing healthcare environment.

You will be taught by world-leading subject experts, clinicians and researchers, who will encourage you to think independently and critically, so you graduate with the expertise to succeed in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.

We are the joint medical school of the Universities of Hull and York, and as such you will have access to the world-class facilities, equipment and expertise as well as the learning resources of both our parent universities.
Life expectancy is increasing worldwide, with people living for longer and often with multiple chronic conditions. Palliative care, including rehabilitation and ‘living well’, is increasingly needed in people’s homes and other community settings, as well as in hospices and hospitals.

Delivering evidence-based, cost-effective palliative care in partnership with communities requires health and social care professionals, policymakers and researchers who can lead change and use robust evidence to inform their work. These professionals must be able to design, conduct, and critically appraise research about what should be done, how it is done, and to what effect. There is an urgent need for professionals in this field to drive positive change in palliative care.

The MSc in Palliative Care: Implementing Best Practice programme is designed to address this significant gap. It will enable and empower you, whether you are a health and social care professional, policymaker or researcher, to progress your development, delivery and evaluation of care that facilitates best practice in palliative care and long-term conditions.

This programme is delivered 100% online, allowing you to access our world-renowned, research-led teaching from anywhere in the world. Designed specifically for an online audience, we use a range of interactive activities to support learning, including discussion forums, webinars and online lectures.

In addition, most modules are available as standalone CPD courses. See p10 for details.
### POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE (PGCert)

The PGCert provides you with the theoretical and practical grounding of contemporary issues in palliative care and long-term conditions.

The PGCert introduces you to the global challenges faced by palliative care, the principles of implementation science in contributing to overcoming these challenges, and the practical skills in critically appraising evidence and conducting palliative care research when evaluating complex interventions relevant to palliative care and long-term conditions.

**CREDITS:** 60 credits  
**STUDY LENGTH:** Typically completed part-time in one year (or can be studied over two years)

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### POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA (PGDip)

The PGDip enhances your knowledge and skills acquired in the PGCert modules with more specialist learning in research methods and the application of implementation science to address current and future challenges in palliative care and long-term conditions, that you can continue to build on in your own academic studies or career.

**CREDITS:** 120 credits  
**STUDY LENGTH:** Typically completed part-time in two years (or can be studied over four years)

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### MASTERS (MSc)

The MSc will consolidate and build on learning from the modules undertaken as part of the PGCert and PGDip to develop your knowledge, skills, and confidence to undertake and deliver a high-quality research project relevant to the development and evaluation of best practice in palliative care and long-term conditions.

**CREDITS:** 180 credits  
**STUDY LENGTH:** Typically completed full-time in one year or part-time in three years (or can be studied over five years)

DELIVERED 100% ONLINE
WHO IS THIS PROGRAMME FOR?

The programme is open to professionals anywhere in the world who work in palliative care or the care of people living with long-term conditions and who have a drive to leverage change in services in the field.

We are seeking ambitious, creative future researchers, clinical academics, policy makers and leaders who have a desire to change lives through influencing service provision in palliative care.

Palliative care is multidisciplinary, and we welcome students from a range of specialities including medical clinicians and GPs, health and social care professionals, policymakers, researchers, and decision makers at a local, regional and national level.

KEY BENEFITS

Develop the research and personal skills, attributes, and confidence to apply your learning to implement evidence-based palliative care whether your focus is hospital, hospice, or community, regional, national or international.

Delivered by some of the world’s leading palliative care experts, who have helped shape clinical guidelines and government policy.

Qualification progression routes: PGCert, PGDip and MSc.

Build your global network of palliative care professionals and connect with like-minded peers.

Study mode is 100% online - you can study anywhere.

Flexible study options - full-time or part-time.

Most modules are available as standalone CPD courses. See p10 for details.

DISCOVER PALLIATIVE CARE
hyms.ac.uk/palliativecare

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Graduates from this programme will develop the knowledge and skills to develop or further their careers in the following roles, including those who wish to combine them with a clinical academic path:

**Consultant in Palliative Medicine**, guiding patients and their families through the most challenging times with compassion and expertise.

**Nurse Consultant in Palliative Care**, leading a team of dedicated professionals to provide unparalleled support and comfort to those in need.

**Physiotherapy Consultant**, using your advanced knowledge to improve the wellbeing and quality of life for patients facing difficult circumstances.

**Chief Executive of a Hospice**, overseeing an organisation that delivers exceptional care to countless individuals during their most vulnerable moments.

Furthermore, for those who seek to deepen their understanding and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field, pursuing a PhD is a natural progression. By embarking on this academic journey, you can position yourself on a career track that allows you to shape and influence the very methods that researchers employ, making substantial contributions to the field of palliative care.

If you have a passion for healthcare, a drive to excel, and a genuine desire to make a positive impact, this course will empower you to unlock a future filled with endless possibilities.
CORE MODULES

PALLIATIVE CARE RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

This module will equip you with transferable skills to enable you to understand the full range of research methods as applied to palliative care. It will also enable you to develop the skills to critically appraise palliative care research, and to begin to understand how to design and deliver high-quality palliative care research.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT: Poster with oral presentation (100%)

INTRODUCTION TO IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE FOR PALLIATIVE CARE AND LONG-TERM CONDITIONS

This module will equip you with the skills to critically research, select, and adapt implementation strategies that enable the delivery of evidence-based palliative care, and care for people with long-term conditions. The content of this module is mapped to the Medical Research Council’s Complex Interventions Framework, so your learning will align with the priorities of service delivery and major research funders.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT: Implementation strategy (100%)

GLOBAL PALLIATIVE CARE DEVELOPMENT

This module introduces key policy and systems issues surrounding the unequal development and implementation of palliative care globally, including pain management services worldwide.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT: Essay (100%)

RESEARCH PROJECT/ DISSERTATION

This module enables you to undertake an in-depth research project in a topic related to the programme and which is relevant to your own practice or developing interests. You will identify a knowledge gap through a review of relevant literature, formulate a research question, write a detailed project proposal, and undertake original research.

ASSESSMENT: 15,000-word dissertation (100%)
OPTIONAL MODULES

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

This module will equip you with the theoretical knowledge and skills to critically appraise, conduct, analyse and report qualitative research when applied to palliative care and care for people with long-term conditions.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT:
Essay (100%)

DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF COMPLEX INTERVENTIONS

This module will equip you with the skills to critically evaluate, develop and evaluate complex interventions in the context of advanced and chronic care.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT:
Poster or oral presentation (100%)

ADVANCED IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE FOR PALLIATIVE CARE AND LONG-TERM CONDITIONS

This module will equip you with advanced skills in theory and critical evidence use to develop, adapt and evaluate implementation strategies for the delivery of evidence-based palliative care and care for people with long term conditions.

Available as a standalone CPD module.

ASSESSMENT:
Essay (100%)

Please note that specific module details may change from time to time. For the latest information, please visit our website.
REGRESSION ANALYSIS

This module will enable you to develop your understanding and skills in using statistical analysis techniques that are widely used in quantitative health research, such as understanding the impact of socio-economic status on wellbeing. You will be able to develop these skills by means of lectures and hands-on analysis of data from real health-related studies, using the statistical software package STATA.

ASSESSMENT:
Report (90%), quizzes (10%)

ADVANCED REGRESSION ANALYSIS

This module will enable you to advance your understanding and skills in using statistical analysis techniques that are widely used in quantitative health research for outcomes such as time-to-event data, count data, and multilevel data. You will have the opportunity to interpret statistical models in the presence of effect modification and evaluate the use of similar statistical analyses in published research.

ASSESSMENT:
Exam (100%)

MEASUREMENT IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

In this module you will learn about the theory and application of methods assessing variation arising from health-related measurements within and between individuals, interpret measurement statistics for different types of data and compare measurements from different sources.

ASSESSMENT:
Exam (100%)

Please note that specific module details may change from time to time. For the latest information, please visit our website.
TEACHING, LEARNING

The programme is delivered 100% online using our Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

This online delivery will enable you to study flexibly, although students should endeavour to take part in the online group discussion sessions held weekly between 10am and 1pm (GMT).

We deliver our teaching and learning online through:

- Lectures
- Small group seminars (tutor-led and student-led)
- Q&A seminars with tutors and external experts

ASSESSMENT

The modules are assessed using a range of approaches, please see module descriptions on p10 for details.

Formative assessments include group presentations, written briefs, and poster presentations.

Summative assessments include essays, poster presentations, protocols, oral presentations, and exams. Students studying for the Masters will also undertake a 15,000-word dissertation.

Feedback is provided via one-to-one tutorials, and from tutors and other students through discussion boards that build on questions identified in lectures and which are related to students’ professional practice.
When you join Hull York Medical School, you join a close-knit community. Our aim is to ensure you get the most out of your time at medical school, and that you are supported throughout your postgraduate studies.

Our postgraduate programmes are intensive and challenging but ultimately hugely rewarding. Our programmes develop you to become a self-directed learner – and therefore a lifelong learner.

We recognise that there may be times when you need additional support to help you manage academic or personal pressures, and we are here to help.

Our Student Wellbeing Team have expertise in supporting postgraduate students and can help signpost students to support services within the Medical School, in our parent universities and external agencies as appropriate.
YOUR APPLICATION

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have previous training in a health or social care profession (e.g. graduates of medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, or social work or other allied health and social care professions), in a science applied to human or organisational behaviour (e.g. graduates of psychology or sociology) or have equivalent professional experience.

Applicants must have a 2.1 degree or equivalent.

Applicants whose first language is not English must have one of the following:
- IELTS: 6.5, with no less than 6.0 in each component
- PTE Academic: 61, with no less than 55 in each component
- CAE and CPE: 176, with no less than 169 in each component
- TOEFL: 87, with a minimum of 21 in each component
- Trinity ISE: level 3 with Merit in all components
- LangCert B2 Communicator High Pass (minimum score 33/50)

KEEP IN TOUCH

There are lots of ways to find out more about our MSc, PGDip, and PGCert in Palliative Care: Implementing Best Practice programme. We run in-person and online events throughout the year to allow you to gain a deeper insight into postgraduate study at Hull York Medical School.

Click the link above to visit our website where you can find details of upcoming events, or subscribe to our postgraduate newsletter so you never miss the latest announcements.

NEXT STEPS

Visit our web pages to view the latest programme information, including fees, funding and scholarship opportunities, or to begin your application.

CLICK HERE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FURTHER INFORMATION
Admissions Enquiries:
pgtadmissions@hyms.ac.uk

Visit our website for
the latest information
Palliative Care
hyms.ac.uk/palliativecare

All details were correct at time of publication (September 2023). For the most up-to-date programme information and entry requirements, please visit hyms.ac.uk/palliativecare.